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[ONE PENNY.]



FATAL ACCIDENT ON THE ALPS—GUIDES IN SEARCH OF THE BODY OF THE REV. J. M. ELLIOTT, OF BRIGHTON.—(SEE PAGE 1357.)

THE LONDON HERALD.—415.



GOSSIP ON THE MONTH.

AUGUST is, perhaps, not the most pleasant month of the year, being what is denominated a "doubtful month," or, in other words, belonging neither to summer nor autumn, but rather proving a connecting link between the two, and having some relationship to both. At least, that is its normal character; but this year we enter upon August with all the glorious sheen of harvest field, which is September's crown. The sickle is already busy, and in many places broad acres are denuded, and the sheaves are already gathered into barn. Thomson's picture is brought vividly to mind as we glance around:—

Soon as the morning trembles o'er the sky,
And, unperceived, unfolds the spreading day;
Before the ripen'd field the reapers stand,
In fair array, each by the lass he loves,
To bear the rougher part, and mitigate,
By nameless gentle offices, her toil.
At once they stoop and swell the lusty sheaves,
Waile through their cheerful band the rural talk,
The rural scandal, and the rural jest,
Fly harmless, to deceive the tedious time,
And steal unfelt the sultry hours away.

August, in the old Roman calendar, bore the dame of *Sextilis*, as the sixth month of the series, and consisted of but twenty-nine days. Julius Cæsar, however, in reforming the calendar of his nation, extended it to thirty days; and not long after this, on Augustus conferring on it his own name, he took a day from February and added it to August, which has ever since consisted of thirty-one days.

The birds of the month are not numerous, the principal being the woodpecker, wryneck, nuthatch, &c. The woodpeckers, as most people know, are so called from their habit of pecking away the wood and bark of trees, to get at the insect food on which they subsist. The most common of the family is the green woodpecker (*Picus viridis*). The great spotted woodpecker (*Picus major*) is next in frequency, and the lesser spotted woodpecker (*Picus minor*) is also found in many parts of the country. The wryneck (*Fusca torquilla*) is easily distinguishable by the handsome markings of its plumage, and its habit of twisting its neck in a snake-like fashion, which has led to its being also called the snakebird. It is a summer visitant. The creeper (*Certhia familiaris*) is one of the smallest of the British birds, and, like the nuthatch (*Sitta Europæa*), is with us all the year.

Though August is, as a rule, a tolerably settled and pleasant month, and, thanks to railways, has become the month *par excellence* for searching for "water babies," and conciliating Old Neptune by a prolonged visit to his marge, it is yet not wanting in signs on every hand that summer is on the wane, and that the time is fast approaching when she will take her departure. As an entertaining writer in Chambers's "Book of Days" remarks, we catch "faint glances of autumn peeping stealthily through openings where the leaves have already fallen, and among berries where summer hung out her blossoms, and sometimes hear his rustling footsteps among the dry seed-vessels, which have usurped the place of her flowers. Though the convolvulus still throws its straggling bells about the hedges, the sweet May-buds are dead and gone, and in their place the green haws hang crudely upon the branches. The winds come not a-Maying amongst them now. Nearly all the field flowers are gone; the beautiful feathered grasses that waved like gorgeous plumes in the breeze and sunshine are cut down and carried away and in their place there is only a green flowerless aftermath. Many of the birds that sung in the green chambers which summer hung for them with her richest arras, have left her, and gone over the sea. What few singers remain are silent, and preparing for their departure; and when she hears the robin, his song comforts her not, for she knows that he will chant a sweeter lay to autumn, when she lies buried beneath the fallen leaves. Musing at times over her approaching end, upon the hillsides, they are touched by her beauty, and crimson up with the flowers of the heather, and long leagues of wild moorland catch the reflected blush, which goes reddening up like sunshine along the mountain slopes. The blue harebell peeps out in wonder to see such a land of beauty, and seems to shake its fragile bells with delight. In waste places, the tall golden-rod, the scarlet poppy, and the large ox-eyed daisy master, as if for a procession, and there wave their mingled banners of gold, crimson, and silver, as summer passes by, while the little eyebright, nestling among the grass, looks up and shows its white petals, streaked with green and gold.

But, far as summer has advanced, several of her beautiful flowers and curious plants may still be found in perfection in the water courses, and beside the streams—pleasanter places to ramble along than the dusty and all but flowerless waysides in August. There we find the wild mint, with its lilac-coloured blossoms, standing like a nymph knee-deep in water, and making all the air around fragrant. And all along the margin by where it grows, there is a flush of green, fresh as April; and perhaps we find a few of the grand water-lilies still in flower, for they often bloom late, and seem like gold and purple banners hanging out over some ancient keep, whose colours are mirrored in the moat below. There also the beautiful arrow-head with its snow-white flowers and arrow-pointed leaves, may be found, looking like ivy growing about the water. Many a rare plant, too little known, flourishes beside and in our sedge-fringed meres and bright meadow streams, where the overhanging trees throw cooling shadows over their grassy margins, and the burning noon of summer never penetrates. Such pleasant places are always cool; for there the grass never withers, nor are the paths ever wholly dry; and when we come upon them unawares, after having skirted the heat and glare of the barren dusty highway, it is as if we were travelling into another country, whose bosom is luxuriant. And thus the water plants and streams

branches, and throws out its pretty broad leaves and rose-tinted flowers, which spread up to the very border of the brook, and run in among the pink flowers of the knot-grass, which every ripple sets in motion. Further on, the purple loosestrife shows its gorgeous spikes of flowers, seeming like a border woven by the moist fingers of the Naiads, to curtain their crystal baths; while the water violets appear as if growing to the roofs of their caves, the foliage clinging to the vaulted silver, and only the dark blue flowers showing their heads above the water. There, too, is the bog pimpernel, almost as pretty as its scarlet sister, which may still be found in bloom by the wayside, though its flowers are not so large. Beautiful it looks, a very flower in arms, nursed by the yielding moss, on which it leans, as it its slender stem and prettily formed leaves were too delicate to rest on common earth, so had a soft pillow provided for its exquisite flowers to repose upon. Nor does it change, when properly dried, if transferred to the herbarium, but there looks as fresh and beautiful as it did while growing—the very fairy of flowers. Nor will the splendid silver-weed be overlooked, with its prettily notched leaves, which underneath have a rich silvery appearance; while the golden-coloured flowers which spread out every way, are soft as velvet to the feel. Then the water has its grass like the field, and is sometimes covered with great meadows of green, among which are seen flowers as beautiful as grow on the inland pastures. The common duck-weed covers miles of water with its oval-shaped leaves, and will from one tiny root soon send out buds enough to cover a large pool, for every shoot it sends forth becomes flower and seed while forming part of the original stem, and these are reproduced by myriads, and would soon cover even the broad Atlantic, were the water favourable to its growth, for only the land could prevent it from multiplying further. Row a boat through this green land-looking-like meadow, and almost by the time you have reached the opposite shore—though you have sundered millions of leaves, and made a glassy course wide enough for a carriage to pass through the water, not a trace will be left, where all was bright and clear as a broad silver mirror, but all again be covered with green, as with a smooth carpet. Beside its velvet meadows, the water has its tall forests and spreading underwood, and stateliest amongst its trees are the flower-bearing rushes, one of which is the very Lady of the Lake, crowned with a red tiara of blossoms. The sword-leaved bur-weed and many another aquatic plant, are like bramble, fern, and shrub, the underwood of the tall sedge, which the nodding bulrushes overtop. Nor is forest or field frequented with more beautiful birds or insects than those found among our water plants. Then we have the beautiful white water-lily, which seems to bring an old world before us, for it belongs to the same species which the Egyptians held sacred, and the Indians worshipped.

August is a month richly flushed with the last touches of summer, toned down here and there with the faint greys of autumn, before the latter has taken up his palette of kindled colours. Still, we cannot look around, and miss so many favourite flowers, which met our eye on every side a few weeks ago, without noticing many other changes. Even now unseen hands are tearing down the tapestry of flowers which summer had hung up to shelter her orchestra of birds in the hedges. What few flowers the woodbine again throws out—children of its old age—have none of the bloom and beauty about them like those born in the lusty sunshine of early summer. For even she is getting grey, and the white down of thistles, dandelion, groundsel, and many other hoary seeds streak her sun-browned hair. There are blotches of russet upon the ferns that before only unfolded great fans of green, and in the sunset the fields of lavender seem all on fire, as if the purple heads of the flowers had been kindled by the golden blaze which fires the western sky. Fainter, and further between each note, the shrill chattering of the grasshopper may still be heard; and as we endeavour to obtain a sight of him, the voice fades away beyond the beautiful cluster of red-coloured pheasant's-eye, which country maidens still call rose-a-ruby, believing that if they have not a sweetheart before it goes out of flower, they will have to wait for another year until it blooms again. The dwarf convolvulus twines round the corn, and the bearbine coils about the hedges, the former winding round in the direction of the sun, and the latter twining in a contrary direction. Sometimes, where the little pink convolvulus has bound several stems of corn together, and formed such a tasteful wreath as a young lady would be proud to wear on her bonnet, the nest of the pretty harvest-mouse may be found. This is the smallest quadruped known to exist—the very humming-bird of mammalia—for when full-grown it will scarcely weigh down a worn farthing, while the tiny nest, often containing as many as eight or nine young ones, may be shut up easily within the palm of the hand, though so compactly made, that if rolled along the floor like a ball, not a single fibre of which it is formed will be displaced."

THE DRAWING ROOM.

FASHIONS.

(From the *Lady's Own Paper*.)

LONDON is now beginning to empty itself fast, and many other towns are following the example to the best of their ability, so that for the next two months we may reasonably expect old Neptune to receive his due share of honours from the fair. Our directions for travelling, seaside, and bathing dresses have been so ample, that we trust our readers will experience no difficulty in speedily and decisively settling the important point what to wear. The following supplementary hints before we leave the subject may, however, prove useful, especially to new subscribers. As we have already explained, the best materials for travelling dresses are those impermeable stuffs that may be exposed to all sorts of weather. Substantial pongees and wash poplins of a pretty colour and stylishly made meet all the requisites of a travelling costume. Grey and Havana brown do not show soil easily, and are favourite colours at present. They are selected in leno, pongee, mohair, and the summer poplins, and made up in a variety of ways, of which those with the simplest trimming are preferable. It is a bad plan to put ruffles or flounces on the upper skirts of travelling dresses, as they are soon crushed out of shape by being sat upon. Cites-but bands, scallops, braid, and fringe are the best trimmings for basques and upper-skirts, reserving the flounces to add a finish below. For short trips, where these goods will answer, the French serge, in black and white stripes, begin to rival the uni-

bleached linens so fashionable on the Continent and in America. They wash admirably, and do not rumple or show soil as the light-coloured linens are apt to do. They are made in the simple style described above for leno.

An excellent "duster," as our American cousins would say, for preserving handsome silk travelling dresses during long journeys, is made with merely a skirt and a graceful but peculiar mantle, cut like a short sacque behind, with long pointed ends over the arms, protecting the front of the corsage. The two pieces, skirt and wrap, are joined together, forming but one garment. It is of Spanish linen trimmed with broad braid. Another duster is a belted polonaise with a capeline, or hood, with long ends that are thrown over the shoulder and hung down behind. Three white tassels adorn the hood.

At the summer resorts abroad capelines, or summer hoods, are taking the place of hats and bonnets. For morning wear they are made of muslin or of cashmere. In the afternoon and evening black or white lace, whichever predominates in the toilette is used for this picturesque drapery. A French toilette for afternoon drives will give an idea of lace capeline. The dress is white batiste, or foulard, a round skirt and puffed upper-skirt trimmed with a flounce headed by a black lace ruche, amidst which are rosettes of coral-coloured silk notched at the edges. Sabot sleeves with double ruffle of silk falling over the hand. Short silk basque, without sleeves, trimmed with black lace. Sash and parasol of the bright-hued silk. The black lace capeline lapped at the throat, with its deep centre turned up over the chignon and held on the front crépés by a rose and buds. Coral jewellery. Long gloves of écu kid.

In America hats are universally worn out of town, bonnets being reserved for the city. With youthful, dimpled faces nothing can be prettier than the round hat of white Swiss. The muslin is shirred on the crown, and a pleated ruche edged with Valenciennes lace borders the brim. A vine of sweet brier or a cluster of field daisies is placed in front. More serviceable hats for country wear are made of white jaconet gathered on cords. Parisiennes wear hats of white or of unbleached linen trimmed with cluny lace, to match dresses of the same material.

RIDING HABITS.

Ladies' cloth is the favourite material for riding habits. Black and an almost invisible shade of blue are most popular this season. About six yards are required for a habit. Broad Hercules braid is used for trimming. For country use, and for a second-best habit to be worn on dusty roads, the preference is for heavy grey linen, or for satin jean of tan and dust colour. Folds of the same are stitched on for trimming. The skirt is fully goared, forming almost a circle, but is made longer on the right side than the left. All the fulness about the waist is in the back. Straps of tape attached to the belt and hooked to the seams half-way down on the under side will loop the skirt to walking-dress length. The corsage with broad revers and linen chemisette is most dressy and cool for summer. High corsages are rounded quite low in front, and worn with a bow at the throat. The pleated postillion basque, and the flat-pointed jockey, both of which merely extend across the back, and the full basque surrounding the figure, are all worn. Sleeves are nearly tight, disclosing the white linen cuff inside. A deep mousquetaire cuff is on the outside. High silk hats, with the brim sloping upward behind to fit over the chignon, are most worn in the park. Black is preferred, but light colours are chosen with light habits. For the country a straw cap has been introduced, and a flat-crowned hat of Milan braid with velvet facing on the brim, and ornamented with an ostrich feather and flowing veil. Black dotted net and coloured grenadine are used for veils. Cravat bows are of white lawn, edged with Valenciennes, or else of white gros grain striped with a colour becoming to the wearer. Black grenadine bows, with embroidered ends, are much admired for equestriennes. The gloves are of undressed kid of neutral shades.

SUGGESTIONS ABOUT SUMMER TOILETTES.

Foulards and summer silk dresses worn in the afternoon are made more dressy by the addition of a jabot of lace, consisting of a band of Swiss insertion with a row of Valenciennes lace on each side. It surrounds the neck, and extends down the front of the corsage to the belt. Other dresses have the neck cut low in front in the shape of the letter V, and completed by a collarette formed of a narrow puff of muslin, with a wide ruffle of Valenciennes below it. Pretty fichus of tucked and dotted muslin are shaped like Spencer capes, broad in the shoulders, and pointed at the belt, with a short basque added. A wide collar is turned over at the throat. The whole garment is edged with Valenciennes, headed by coloured ribbon. A belt with buckle or sash, and a cravat bow, are of wider ribbon of the same shade. These fichus give an air of style to the simplest muslin dresses.

The sabot sleeve is greatly in vogue for high-necked dresses of foulard, grenadine, and silk. At the top it is like an easy-fitting coat-sleeve, but gradually widens below, and is gathered into a ruffle, or sometimes two, falling downward on the wrist. The opening is just large enough to slip the arm through.

Dresses of all materials, from muslin to silk, are being made with short skirts and separate trains, or else with the train attached to the three back widths, to be looped in the street, and allowed to flow in the house. This adds an extra toilette to the wardrobe at small expense, as one waist and sleeves will serve with both skirts.

The fancy for checked goods has revived the old-fashioned cross-barred muslin for breakfast dresses and children's use. It is very serviceable, is strong as pique, and much cooler, and washes clear and light while there is a thread of it left. It is trimmed with bias bands of the same stitched on wider bands of solid-coloured percale that show like piping above and below the white bands. Bright green and mauve percale are most used. Nanook, with a thick twilled stripe, is also worn, but it is not so durable as the barred goods, as the thin stripe is apt to split.

Fine French muslins, rose-colour, china-blue, and apple-green, are worn beneath white organdies, and are much lighter and cooler than silk. Foulard and percale are also used beneath transparent muslins. Grenadine requires silk linings. Some Chambery gauzes are thick and glossy enough to be worn over white muslins.

Lace points are bunched up on the shoulders in every conceivable way in the Continent. This fashion is ruinous to fine lace, but is prevalent in until straight-hanging draperies are the exception, and begin to look stiff and disagreeable. Old organdies that have been laid aside for years because too small for use are now brought to light, and their cheap and

size concealed by this new mode of draping. The entire depth at the side is fastened high on the shoulders in a single bunch of folds, held by a gold clasp or a ribbon bow. The whole of the dress sleeve is disclosed. The back of the mantle is allowed to droop nearly to the sash, and the fronts are lapped beneath the belt. Square shawls of white or black grenadine, with plain hems or with fringe, are arranged in the same way, and look very stylish. Short sacques of white lama lace lined with coloured silk are worn at the watering-places. Embroidered Swiss muslin shawls, mantles, and boschliks are greatly in favour abroad.

Large-meshed nets of coarse sadder's silk or of fine soutache are worn by way of change from the invisible nets so long used over the chignon. They are very durable, and are shown in black and every shade of brown to match the hair. They are especially pretty with light hair. Pink and blue nets are shown, but are not admired.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

STRAND THEATRE.

A NEW version, by Mr. H. P. Grattan, of the favourite old farce called "The Toodles," has been brought out at this theatre, mainly in the interest of Mr. J. S. Clarke, to whom the part of Timothy Toodles affords a congenial opportunity for the display of the actor's unrivalled talent for the truthful representation of drunkenness in all its most whimsical and ridiculous phases. This character has been for many years in great favour upon the American stage, where it is still regarded as a touchstone of fantastic humour for comedians of the more eccentric order. Mr. Owen, the Philadelphia actor, performed it admirably at the Adelphi a few years since, and it also found an exceedingly laughable representative at the Haymarket in the gigantic person of Sir William Don of factious memory. But by no artist who has ever essayed it in London has it been played with such fresh exuberant fun, and at the same time with such innate fidelity to nature, as by Mr. Clarke.

A new piece by Mr. Brougham, entitled, "Among the Breakers," and described as "a farcical comedy" (though it might have been called with more justice simply a farce), introduces Mr. Clarke in the character of Babington Jones, a groom, who, having obtained a brief holiday from his master, behaves so irrationally as to get immersed in a sea of trouble, whence the title of the play. He is the victim of many mistakes of identity, being claimed as her husband by a woman whom he has never seen, as their father by children of whose existence he was not aware, as a runaway felon by a detective in search of prey, and finally, being looked upon as his rival in love by his own master. What adds to his misery is that his trousers fit so closely and are so tightly braced and strapped that he is afraid to sit down—a not unfamiliar dilemma to the heroes of farces. Out of "this nettle danger" the actor "plucks the flower" fun to the intense gratification of the audience, to whom the groom's misfortunes are an abundant source of laughter. Mr. Turner appears as Colonel O'Gorman, a fire-eating Irishman of the old conventional type, and Miss E. Bufton acts brightly and pleasantly as Charlotte O'Gorman, his daughter. To avoid any possible misapprehension arising from a resemblance, whether real or imaginary, between this piece and any other now in course of performance elsewhere, the management have thought it right to state that "Among the Breakers" has been in their possession for the last two years, and that although acted some time ago at the Prince of Wales Theatre at Liverpool, it has never until now been performed in London.

ADELPHI THEATRE.

"The Cricket on the Hearth" had its day of chirping felicity, and now to meet the requirements of a more sensational age we have "The Serpent on the Hearth," such being the terrific title of a new play by Mr. Palgrave Simpson, which has been produced at this theatre. The fire-side viper is, of course, our old friend the correspondent, a being who, however unwelcome in real life, would seem to be indispensable upon the stage, and the peculiarity of his proceedings on the present occasion is that they tend to compromise not the object of his wicked attentions but an innocent woman, who in an evil moment had consented to play the perilous part of a go-between. A letter written by the "Serpent," and intended for his *innamorata*, is placed in the hollow of a tree, but falling into the hands of the medium's husband, a man of intensely jealous temperament, it so influences his suspicions that he regards it as proof positive of his wife's guilt, and accordingly turns her out of doors. A mistaken sense of honour deters her from betraying the secret of her friend, though her own good name is in question; but, overwhelmed with anguish and despair, she attempts to drown herself. She is rescued, but her mind gives way beneath the weight of her sorrows. Her husband loses sight of her, and for six years she lives a melancholy maniac in the house of a farmer to whose daughter, as well as to the village doctor, she becomes an object of the fondest solicitude. Meantime a drunken and vindictive workman, who owes her husband a grudge for having discharged him, steals her only child, and makes a female acrobat of her, in which capacity the poor little girl has a wretched life of it with a troupe of itinerant showmen. Time, of course, brings about his revenges, mainly through the instrumentality of a good-natured artist, who, having a well-grounded conviction of the heroine's innocence, at last succeeds with the help of the doctor in making the facts manifest to the world. After passing through trials too many and too dreadful to be enumerated, she recovers her reason, her child, and her husband; and the "Serpent," who returns to the hearth after an absence of many years in India, is taught a lesson by which it is to be hoped that he will profit, and not be alone, but the lady also who was so indiscreet as to lend a willing ear to his peridious addresses. Although some of the leading characters and incidents of this story are not unfamiliar to playgoers, the treatment is in many respects original, and there is undoubtedly some novelty in what may be termed the central "situation"—that of one woman being hunted down and driven to ruin and destruction through the selfishness and cowardice of another, who, though conscious of her victim's innocence, shrinks from proclaiming it lest in so doing she may also arouse her own dishonour.

THE FRENCH PLAY.

The season at the St. James's Theatre was brought to a close on Saturday, when, in presence of a brilliant audience,

Mellicie Schneider carolled for the last time the merry ditties of the "Grand Dauphine."

We are glad to understand that we are to have French plays in London every year, under the management of M. Raphael Felix, who has made proof of the greatest liberality and the most perfect good faith in his dealings with the public.

The operatic season of the St. James's has lasted over eight weeks, and in that small theatre three such pieces as "La Grande Duchesse," "Barbe-Bleue," and "Orphée aux Enfers" have been placed before the public with new scenery, dresses, and appointments. All this implies a great expenditure, and a manager who incurs this on the possible run of a piece for three weeks certainly deserves encouragement.

OLYMPIC THEATRE.

A SHORT summer season, under the direction of Miss Constance Roden, for the production of opera, farce, and burlesque, was commenced at this theatre on Saturday evening. Boieldieu's "John of Paris," a work which would be more correctly described as a musical drama, did duty as the opera, the principal characters being sustained by Miss Constance Roden, Miss Lennox Grey, Miss Fanny Reeves, Mr. Elliot Galer, Mr. Dussek Corri, and Mr. J. G. Taylor. The music written at the commencement of the present century, is pretty, simple, and melodious; the phrases of the songs and concerted pieces and the instrumental accompaniments possess all the commonplace characteristics of the period in which it was first given to the public. The piece was well put on the stage and the band was small but efficient. There was no burlesque, but two farces—"A Private Inquiry" and "The Fast Coach"—were played, the first before, the second after the opera.

GAIETY THEATRE.

THE successful opera bouffe, "Columbus," is still running at this theatre, certainly one of the best arranged in London, and now an additional attraction is supplied in a new comedy, by Mr. W. S. Gilbert, entitled "An Old Score." The "motif" of the piece is the entire repayment and acquittance of a debt that appears too heavy for wealth or gratitude to discharge. Just such an obligation as that shown in the play was contracted, it is said, by the late Mr. William Dargan towards John Sadleir—the dreadful close of whose career every one recollects—and was discharged as Casby discharges his "old score."

This is the first effort of Mr. Gilbert in the direction of real drama, his literary efforts being confined hitherto to burlesque, and though equally free from melodramatic and farcical elements, the piece has more pretension to be regarded as a comedy than scores of modern plays to which that elevated appellation is assigned. The work, though it avoids the fashionable ultra-realism of the day, is evidently intended for a picture of actual life as manifested in characters and collisions.

The piece is well acted, and for this reason, as well as on account of its intrinsic merits, deserves to be successful.

MR. T. W. ROBERTSON is writing a melodrama, founded upon the trials and troubles of Risk Allah Bey.

A PORTRAIT of Earl Russell when a baby, painted by Lawrence, has just been added to the Louvre Gallery.

"LES MAITRES CHANTEURS" is to be given in Berlin in October, and "Lohengrin" at Copenhagen during the next season.

MADAME LEMMENS-SHERINGTON has been singing with success at Rotterdam in the festival of the Society for the Propagation of Music.

THE Orchestra mentions that Mr. Byron will supply the Gaiety theatre with a new drama for Christmas time, when Mr. Toole will appear at that house.

MME. LUCCA has definitively renounced her engagement at St. Petersburg, owing to the state of her health. In September she is to sing at Wiesbaden.

MR. CHARLES DICKENS is, we are glad to say, now convalescent. His farewell readings will, it is said, be resumed next season.

THE committee for erecting a monument to the late Emperor Maximilian in Mexico, near Hietzing, has issued a circular inviting voluntary contributions.

SIGNORA LUCCA will leave Ischl about the middle of August for Baden-Baden, where she is to remain till September. Her stay at Ischl is said to have produced an excellent effect on her health.

THE subscription to the proposed memorial of Chopin continue to come in. The monument is to be erected in Warsaw, and to be executed by M. Godebski, son-in-law of M. Servais, and sculptor of a successful bust of Rossini.

NEWSPAPER literature has even invaded the Turkish harem. The *Zeraki* of Stamboul now issues an edition *de luxe*, printed on fine tinted paper, for exclusive circulation amongst Turkish ladies.

MADAME TUSSAUD'S EXHIBITION.—Many important additions have recently been made to this popular place of entertainment. The court dresses, manufactured by the famous Worth, of Paris, would alone repay a visit.

A DIARY kept by Lord Palmerston, from the year 1827 to probably the later years of his political life, has been recently brought to light, and Lady Palmerston has given these neatly-written and precise MS. volumes to Sir Henry Dalmer, for the forthcoming Life to be published by Mr. Bentley.

THE Viceroy of Egypt has given some magnificent presents to the artists who sang before him at the Italian Opera in Brussels. Thus, Mme. Marie Siss has received from the Viceroy a *parure* of fine pearls to the value of £1,000, and Mdle. R. Block, a diamond brooch.

SIR MICHAEL COSTA has left London for Naples, on his way to the island of Ischia, where he will remain for the season. In November he will go to Stuttgart to conduct his oratorio of *Naaman*, the adaptation of which will be heard for the first time in Germany. In December, or early in January, either *Eli* or *Naaman* will be produced in Berlin.

A SON of the late pugilistic Tom Sayers has made his *début* as a comic singer. He sings a song recounting his father's fistic engagements, and points with a natural pride to the drawers he has on, stating that they were worn by his father when he fought with Heenan, at Farnborough, in 1860. The sight of this interesting relic has a magnetic influence on the audience, who greet the drawers with loud cheers.

MME. LUGNET, the daughter of M. René Lugnet, of the Palais Royal, has died in Paris, in her nineteenth year. Her connection with the stage was remarkably close. She was granddaughter of the famous Madame Morand, niece of M.

Jacques Lugnet, of the Théâtre Français at St. Germain, of Mr. Henri Lugnet, director of the Théâtre de Tréte in Berlin, of M. Desrieux, of the Vaudeville, and of Madame Marie Laurent and Madame Vigne.

A CREOLE, Mr. J. J. Thomas, of Trinidad, who was both African and Creole, and who has passed most of his life among poor Creoles of his island, has published a very little book, "The Theory and Practice of Creole Government." It took him more than three years to write, he says, when he was a Ward school-teacher at a distant out-station, and could only work at night. The changes that French has undergone in its passage into Creole are extremely odd.

IN a convocation, July 27, the honorary degree of D.C.L. was conferred on Mr. H. W. Longfellow, the American poet, who was unable to visit Oxford at the commemoration of 1868. The poet was presented by Dr. Rowden to the Vice-Chancellor (Dr. Plumtre), who duly attested him. There was a large attendance of ladies, and most of the senior and junior members of the University, who happened to be in attendance were present. Mr. Longfellow and his daughters are staying in Oxford for a short time.

ANOTHER accident has happened at a music hall through a female acrobat. Two tumblers—a Monsieur Davine and a Mme. Moirelancaneau—were engaged at the Metropolitan, in the Edgware-road. One of the feats consists of the male performer springing from one trapeze into the arms of the lady. He was caught, but owing to the woman's hands becoming slippery, she was unable to grasp him tight, and he fell into a net which the proprietor had placed underneath the trapeze. Such, however, was the force of Davine's fall that the net gave way, and the aerial voyager was forced against the chairman's table, but escaped with a few bruises.

THE operatic monopoly contrived this spring by a *coup d'état* cannot be continued a second season. A strong opposition has already been formed, and the most useful, as well as the most attractive, members of the Covent Garden troupe—including Mdle. Nilsson, Signori Mongini, Gardoni, Poli, Gassier, and Mr. Santloy, have actually been engaged. Madame Trebelli, the most accomplished of living operatic *contraltos*, Madame Volpini, Madame Monbelli, and Signor Bettini have also agreed to join the troupe. Signor Arriti is to be conductor; and it is promised that the chorus shall be exceptionally good. Drury-lane Theatre has been taken, it is rumoured, for next season.

KENSINGTON GARDENS.

THESE delightful gardens, which include an area of above 350 acres, did not, when purchased by William III., soon after his accession, exceed 26 acres. Previous to 1705 Kensington Gardens did not extend farther north than the conservatory; and the eastern boundary was nearly in the line of the broad walk which crosses before the east front of the palace. The kitchen-gardens, which formerly extended northward towards the Gravel pits, and the 30 acres north of the conservatory, added by Queen Anne to the pleasure-grounds, may have been the 55 acres "detached and severed from the park, lying in the north-west corner thereof," granted in the 16th of Charles II. to Hamilton, Ranger of the Park, and Birch, Auditor of Excise, the same to be walled and planted with "pippins and red streaks," on condition of their furnishing apples or cider for the king's use. At the end of the avenue leading from the south front of the palace to the wall on the Kensington-road, is a large and lofty architectural alcove, built by Queen Anne's orders; so that Kensington Palace, in her reign, seems to have stood in the midst of fruit and pleasure gardens, with pleasant alcoves on the west and south, and a stately conservatory on the east, the whole confined between the Kensington and Uxbridge roads, the west side of Palace Green, and the broad walk before the east front of the palace.

Caroline, Queen of George II., added to the gardens nearly 300 acres from Hyde-park, and had a canal formed at the cost of 6,000*l.*; whilst with the soil dug was raised a mound to the south-east, with a revolving prospect-house. The gardens were planted and laid out by Bridgeman, who banished verdant sculpture, but adhered to straight walks and clipped hedges, varied with a wilderness and open groves.

Of late years Kensington Gardens have been greatly improved by drainage, relaying out, and the removal of walls and substitution of open iron railing. Viewed from near the palace, eastward are three avenues through dense masses of ancient trees. Immediately in front of the palace is a quadrangle-designed flower-garden, between which and Kensington Palace some stately old elm-trees. The broad walk, 50 feet broad, was once the fashionable promenade. On the southern margin of the gardens is a walk, bordered by the newer and more kind of shrubs, each labelled with its Latin and English name, and its country. The most picturesque portion of the gardens, however, is at the entrance from near the bridge over the Serpentine, where is a delightful walk east of the water, beneath some noble old Spanish chestnut trees. The elegant stone bridge across the west end of the Serpentine was designed by Sir John Rennie in 1825, and cost 33,500*l.* The magnificent Carbunkle iron gates (from the Great Exhibition of 1851) are erected adjoining the southern side, and an engraving of them will be found on page 1348.

VIEW OF CHARLESTOWN.

CHARLESTOWN is the largest city in South Carolina, and of great commercial importance. It is situated at the confluence of two streams, which unite in Charleston Harbour, seven miles from the ocean. Its situation is low, and hence liable to inundation. As the principal commercial city of the Southern States it played an important part during the late American war. On page 1,357 will be found an illustration of the city.

SCIENCE AND ART—A striking instance of the power of science and art in the balance-spring of a watch. From it we learn the delicacy and delicacy 4,000 weight and more than one ounce, and exceed 1,000,000. A most interesting little work describes the rise and progress of watchmaking, has been published by J. W. Benson, 25, Old Bailey, and the City School Factory, 38 and 40, Ludgate-hill. The work, which is profusely illustrated, gives a full description of the various kinds of watches and clocks, with their prices. Mr. Benson (who made the appointment to the Trade of Watchmaker, and also published a pamphlet on Artistic Gold Jewellery, illustrated with the most beautiful designs of Bracelets, Brooches, Bangles, Chains, &c., suitable for the Watchmaker, and other persons. These pamphlets are sold post free by the same publisher, and they should be sent to the publishers, who are also enabled to send any article they may require, and to be forwarded to the publisher.

TERRIBLE CALAMITY ON THE ERIE RAILROAD.

(From the *New York Tribune*.)

MAST HOPE, PENN., July 15.

ANOTHER terrible accident occurred on the Erie Railway, at Mast Hope Station, 30 miles from Port Jervis, on Wednesday night, by which some 10 or 15 human beings were suddenly crushed, bruised, mangled, and fearfully burnt to death, nothing but a few charred remains being left for sepulture. The effects of this last and most disastrous calamity in the annals of Erie Railway horrors are as follow:—Train No. 3, through night express, left Jersey city at seven o'clock on Wednesday night. The train consisted of nine cars, viz., one postal car, one A. and G. W. express and baggage car, one Erie baggage car, a smoking car, one day passenger car, and four sleeping coaches. The train arrived safely at Port Jervis, the end of the Eastern division, where locomotive No. 318 was attached, of which Charles Coffee was engineer; Henry Smith was the conductor. The train sped swiftly along westward, the passengers having mostly made themselves comfortable for the night, as they supposed, and little dreaming of the terrible havoc which was shortly to ensue. An extra to freight train No. 39 lay in the long switch at Mast Hope, waiting for the express train to pass. This was also bound west, and it being a single track for some miles along here, the freight train had to make way for the express. The conductor of the freight train was J. S. Brown, and the engineer James Griffin. The train was drawn by locomotive No. 275. The express train was some 25 minutes overdue at Mast Hope, it being then about twelve o'clock, when the

A German who lives near the scene of the disaster was aroused by the engineer of the train, and saw the flames when they first burst forth from the burning cars. As he approached the wreck he heard the most agonising screams issuing from the smoking car, but they gradually died away as the victims succumbed to the effects of the fiery element.

LACKAWAXEN, PENN., July 16.

For once in the annals of railway accidents prompt action has been taken by the officials of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to bring the reckless *employé*, whose culpable negligence resulted so fatally, to speedy justice. After the collision on the Erie Railroad at Mast Hope, the wreckers were despatched to the scene of the disaster, where they took charge of the bodies which were burned in the smoking car. The entire car had been burned to the trucks, and lying between them were the charred remains of eight victims burned to cinders. In this number was an entire family of Germans, consisting of father, mother, and three children, who are yet unknown, the Rev. B. B. Hancock, of New York; Daniel Baer, a German emigrant; and another person as yet unknown. The remains were carefully scraped up and placed in separate boxes, each of which was numbered, and all articles which the flames had not consumed were collected together and correspondingly numbered, which may in time help to identify the remains. The victims were brought to Port Jervis and given in charge of an undertaker, with orders from the Erie Company to properly inter them in the Erie Railroad Company's lot in Laurel Grove Cemetery, where several who were killed at the Carr's Rock disaster are now lying.

trouble, Père l'Épingle would disappear for several hours, sometimes days, but he never came back without money wherewith to relieve the afflicted. This much for Père l'Épingle's private life. His political life was exemplary. He was really king over his territory, and his subjects adored their monarch. He signed their treaties, settled their quarrels, and judged their delinquencies. He congregated his people around him, and lodging in the same neighbourhood they afforded each other mutual protection. All thieves were immediately forced to leave, banished for life from the vicinity. Woe to them if they attempted to return. But the kingdom of Père l'Épingle was far too honest for the frequent incursion of thieves. Besides being monarch, Père l'Épingle was also doctor. He manufactured his own medicines, which he gave to his people gratis. He also undertook the duties of minister of instruction. He kept a library, lent out books, taught children to read and write gratuitously. Finally, like a wise ruler, Père l'Épingle, dying, chose a successor, whose name is Philippe le Rebouteur-Philip the Bonesetter.

PARRICIDE.—At the South Lancashire assizes, before Mr. Justice Hayes, Samuel Bennett, aged 17, was found guilty of causing the death of his father at Haliwell on the 31st March. The prisoner and his father, both being drunk, were travelling along the road in a cart, when an altercation arose, and the prisoner threw his father out. He received injuries from which he died on the following day. Sentence was deferred.

SHOCKING AFFAIR.—On Saturday afternoon a woman was killed by a blow from a young man with whom a quarrel had arisen, as it appears, in consequence of her being intoxicated. The deceased, Maria Hall, the widow of George Hall,



THE ORNAMENTAL GATE AT KENSINGTON GARDENS.—(See Page 1347.)

engineer of the freight train, awaking from a comfortable nap, and presuming, it is supposed, that the express had gone by, reached out and pulled the throttle of his engine, and the train slowly moved forward on to the main track. The engine had just reached the "frog," and stood partially on the main track, diagonally to it, when the express train rounded the curve at a tremendous rate, and quick as lightning crashed into the freight engine, completely shattering the two locomotives, and "telescoping" the forward cars of the passenger train into a heap of ruins. The passenger locomotive was overturned, scattering the fire through the splintered wreck, which speedily ignited, and blazed up into a brilliant conflagration. The engineers and firemen on both trains escaped with very slight injuries, although how they escaped they are themselves unable to tell.

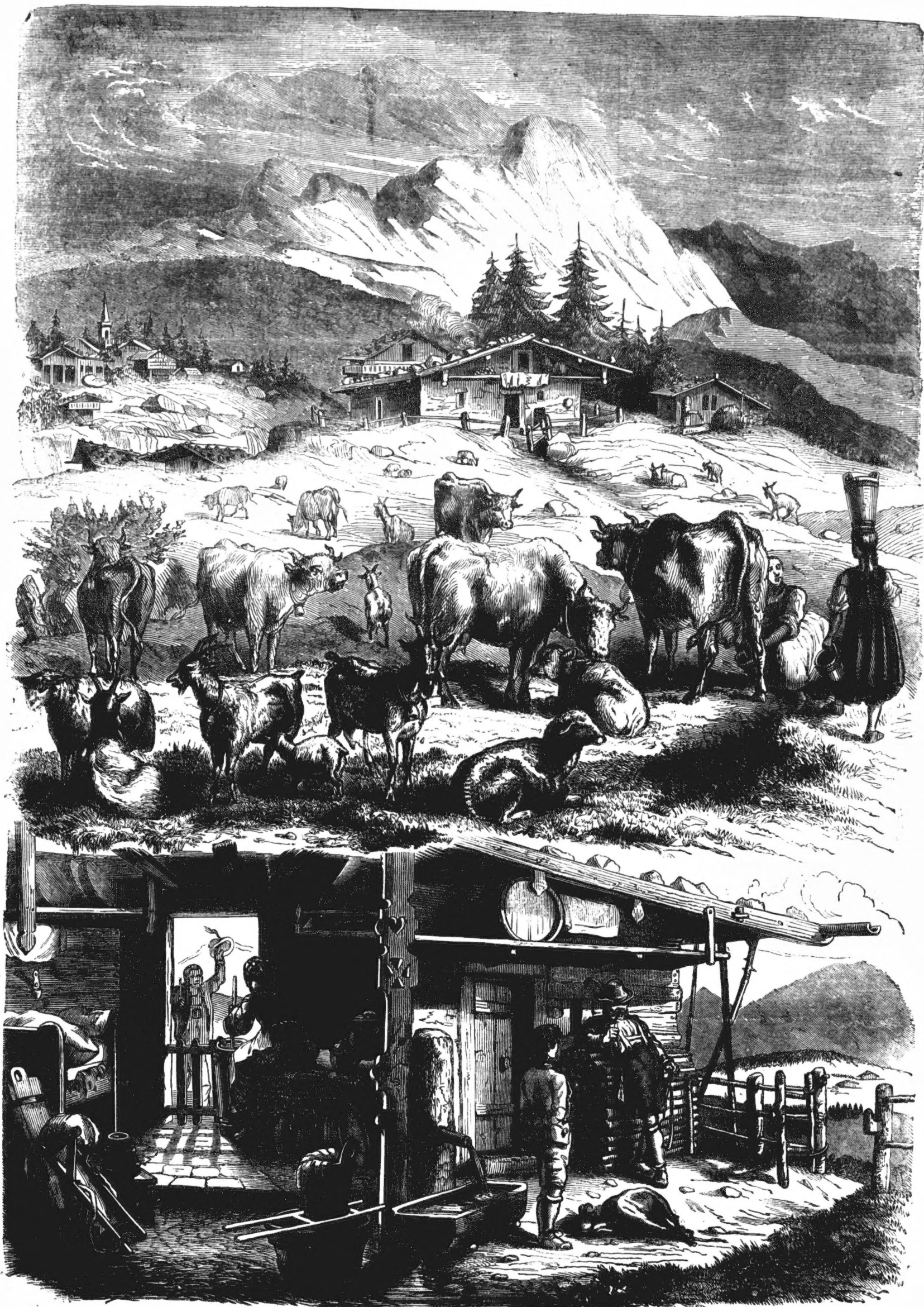
The only witness of this terrible collision was Edward Smith, the flagman on the freight train, who was sitting upon the depot platform, and was injured by the locomotive as it careened from the track. The passengers in the rear passenger cars, who were thoroughly aroused by the shock, at once rushed out, and, aided by the hands on the freight train, endeavoured to rescue the injured passengers from the burning wreck. The fire had gained such headway that it was useless to attempt to check it, there being no water near. The rear cars of the train were shoved back one by one, three of them being saved by this means. The fire meanwhile communicated to the depot and telegraph office, which were likewise burned to the ground. The heat became so intense that it was impossible to render much assistance in extricating the dead and wounded, and they were therefore left to perish in the flames.

THE KING OF THE RAG-PICKERS.

A GREAT man has just died in Paris—Père l'Épingle. In Paris, far more than in London, there are private persons who by force of character become in a manner public. They are known to everybody; anecdotes about them are current; and there are constant reference to them in the public prints. Père l'Épingle was one of these—the king of the rag-pickers, who has just died, in orthodox phrase, much regretted. The rag-pickers are a band of individuals peculiar to the French metropolis, who appear at dusk with baskets on their backs, hook stick, and lantern in hand, to see what paper, rags, bones, and unconsidered trifles may be picked up in the streets. They are a large body, strictly under the superintendence of the police, for even in this humble trade a license is necessary. On the breast of each rag-picker may be observed a brass number, by which the police recognise that the wearer has been duly authorised. The rag and bone trade has always been known as profitable, and some rag-pickers rise to considerable wealth. When their king expired, therefore, this important section of Parisian society were able to make an adequate demonstration of honour to his memory. No less than 1,200 of them turned out to follow the hearse of Père l'Épingle. Whence the monarch came, however, and who he was, no one seems to know. Perhaps Marshal Canrobert, to whom he was secretary many years ago in Africa, may be able to tell. At least, Père l'Épingle, when hard pressed, has been heard to give this clue to his antecedents. Under his bed was found a packet of papers with the inscription—"To be burnt after my death." Round his neck was a medallion inclosing a miniature portrait of Rachel. Often, when any of the inhabitants of his quarter, called the Isle of Monkeys, was in

late of Blackburn, has lately been housekeeper to a man named Makin. On Saturday she went, about nine o'clock in the morning, to the house of a Mrs. Kirkland. She was then in a state of intoxication. The woman remained there all day, and fell asleep in a chair. About four o'clock the man with whom she lived came in and began to abuse her, and charged her with spending his money. This she denied. Soon afterwards the man's son, John Makin, came and joined in the altercation. He complained that he had had no breakfast that day. She retorted that there was plenty of bread and butter in the house. The young man then attempted to strike her, but Mrs. Kirkland prevented him, and he sat down. The deceased then knelt down before him and dared him to strike her. The younger Makin rose and struck her a violent blow on the chest. She then seized the poker, but it was wrested from her, and deceased immediately afterwards staggered, and said, "I am done for; be witness for me, Mrs. Kirkland." She then fell on the floor, and died immediately. The woman was 30 years of age, and has left two children, one six and the other four years of age. Young Makin, who is 19 years of age, immediately gave himself up to the police.

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THE ALPS AND THEIR INHABITANTS.—(SEE PAGE 1356.)

THEATRES.

THEATRE ROYAL DRURY-LANE.

Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. B. Chatterton.
This evening will be represented a Drama of Modern Life, called **FORMOSA**; or, **The Railroad to Ruin**, in four acts, written by Dion Boucicault. The following performers have been selected to represent the numerous characters with which this piece abounds: Messrs. Barrett, H. Irving, David Fisher, F. Charles, Brittain Wright, John Rouse, J. Morris, J. Reynolds, J. B. Johnstone, Webber, Cullen, Mitchenson, and J. B. Howard (his first appearance in London); Mrs. Billington; Misses M. Brennan, Macdonald, Hudgath, Beatrix Shirley, E. Stuart, Dalton, Mervyn Hall, and Katharine Rodgers. The performances to commence with the farce of **BELLES OF THE KITCHEN**, in which the celebrated Vokes Family will appear. To conclude with the farce of **BORROWED PLUMES**.

PRINCESS'S THEATRE.

Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Vining.
Every Evening, at 7, **PRESUMPTIVE EVIDENCE**. After which, at 8.45, **ACIS AND GALATEA**: Mr. Vernon Rigby, Mr. Montem Smith, Herr Formes, and Miss Blanche Cole. Concluding with, at 10.30, **A QUIET FAMILY**.

OLYMPIC THEATRE.

Under the Management of Miss Roden.
Every Evening, **JOHN OF PARIS**, with additional music by W. F. Taylor. Principal characters by Mdlles. Roden, Lennox Grey, and Fanny Reeves; Messrs. Elliot Galer, J. G. Taylor, and Dussak Corri. At 7.30 **A PRIVATE INQUIRY**. Concluding with **THE FAST COACH**.

ADELPHI THEATRE.

Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Benjamin Webster.
Every Evening, at 7, **TOO MUCH OF A GOOD THING**: Messrs. C. H. Stephenson and Dalton; Miss M. Harris and Miss N. Harris. At 8, **THE SERPENT ON THE HEARTH**: Messrs. Phillips, E. Atkins, Stuart, C. H. Stephenson, W. H. Eburne, Dalton, and C. J. Smith; Mrs. M. Eburne, Mrs. Leigh Murray, Miss Johnstone, and Mrs. Stoker. To conclude with **DOMESTIC ECONOMY**.

GAIETY THEATRE, STRAND.

Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. John Hollingshead.
Every Evening, at 7, **OPRETTA, LISCHEN AND FRITSCHEN**: Miss Loschy, Mr. Terrott. At 7.45, new Drama, in three acts, by W. S. Gilbert, called **AN OLD SCORE**: Messrs. Henry Neville, S. Emery, John Clayton, J. Eldred, Maclean, and Robins; Messrs. Henrade, R. Rance, and Mrs. Leigh. At 9.15, **COLUMBUS**, Musical Extravaganza: Mdlle. Roseri.

ROYAL STRAND THEATRE.

Sole Lessee and Manager, Mrs. Swanborough.
Every Evening at 7.30, **AMONG THE BREAKERS**: Mr. Glyke. After which, **THE TODDLES**. Followed by **JOAN OF ARC**: Messrs. Thorne, James, Fenton; Messrs. Baiton, Matland, Sheridan, Goodall.

ROYALTY THEATRE.

Under the Management of Miss M. Oliver.
Every Evening, at 7.30, **QUITE AT HOME**: Messrs. Day, Kennedy, Cobbett; Messrs. Rouse and Bourke. After which at 8, **CHECKMATE**: Messrs. Dewar and Danvers; Messrs. Saunders and M. Oliver. Followed by, at 9.15, **BILLY TAYLOR**: Messrs. Dewar and Danvers; Messrs. Saunders, Bromley, Bishop, and M. Oliver. To conclude with **IN FOR A HOLIDAY**.

PRINCE OF WALES'S ROYAL THEATRE.

Under the Management of Miss Marie Wilton.
Every Evening, at 8, **SCHOOL**. Messrs. Hare, Montague, Addison, &c.; Messrs. Carlotta Addison, Buckingham White and Marie Wilton. Also **A WINNING HAZARD**, and **A LAME EXCUSE**: Messrs. Blakey, Montgomery, Collette, and Terriss; Messrs. A. and B. Wilton.

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Manager, Mr. E. J. Young.
This Evening at 7.30, **MY WIFE'S DENTIST**. Followed by, at 8.30, **THE TURN OF THE TIDE**: Messrs. Hermann Vezin, Mellon, Keat Webb, Rignold, J. Howard, Frank Matthews, and John Ryder; Messrs. Sophia Young, H. Hodson, K. Gordon, K. Harlow, and Mrs. F. Matthews.

CHARING-CROSS.

Every Evening at 7.30, **COMING OF AGE**: Miss Cicely Nott. After which, **EDENDALE**: Messrs. J. G. Shore, Flockton, R. Barker, Temple; Messdames Hughes, Ernstone, Irwin, Garthwaite. To conclude with **THE PRETTY DRUIDESS**: Messdames Hughes, Cicely Nott, Irwin, and R. Barker.

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Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. John Douglass.
This Evening, at 7.30, **MASKS AND FACES**: Mr. Benjamin Webster; Messrs. Hamilton, Vivian, Tyars, Butler; Messrs. Alfred Mellon, Furtado, Herbert, &c. After which, **ONE TOUCH OF NATURE**: Mr. Benjamin Webster, Miss Furtado, &c. To conclude with a Comedietta; Mr. A. Vivian, Miss Herbert, &c.

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MADAME TUSSEAU'S EXHIBITION.—Open from Eleven till dusk, and from Seven till Ten.

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British Museum; Chelsea Hospital; Courts of Law and Justice; Docks; Dulwich Gallery; East India Museum, Fife House, Whitehall; Greenwich Hospital; Hampton Court Palace; Houses of Parliament; Kew Botanic Gardens and Pleasure Grounds; Museum of Economic Geology, Jermyn-street; National Gallery; National Portrait Gallery; Patent Museum, adjoining the South Kensington Museum; Soane's Museum, Lincoln's-inn-fields; So-

dety of Arts' Exhibitions of Inventions (in the spring of every year); St. Paul's Cathedral; Westminster Abbey; Westminster Hall; Windsor Castle; Woolwich Dockyard and Repository.

2.—BY INTRODUCTION.

Antiquarian Society's Museum, Somerset House; Armourers' Museum, 81, Coleman-street; Asiatic Society's Museum, 6, New Burlington-street; Bank of England Museum (collection of coins); Botanical Society's Gardens and Museum, Regent's-park; College of Surgeons' Museum, Lincoln's-inn-fields; Guildhall Museum (old London antiquities); Linnæan Society's Museum, Burlington House; Mint (process of coining), Tower-hill; Naval Museum, South Kensington; Royal Institution Museum, Albemarle-street; Trinity House Museum, Tower-hill; United Service Museum, Scotland-yard; Woolwich Arsenal.

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The Illustrated Weekly News
AND LONDON HERALD.

(REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.)

SATURDAY, AUGUST 7, 1869.

THE NEW CONVENT SCANDAL.

THE horrible story of a nun immured in a cell in the Carmelite Convent of Cracow has just been given at length by the *Times*, and any one who, in tale or drama, should have represented such an event as happening in a civilised city in this age of humanity would have been accused of imagining impossible horrors to discredit a creed against which he had a fanatical antipathy. Doubtful as are the English people of the morality engendered by the so-called religious life, it would probably have hardly occurred to the most zealous Protestant among us that such an example of the perversion of human instincts could be given to the world at the present day. Such wickedness is, of course, rare, and it may be argued that it is unfair to attack an institution for the isolated act of certain misguided members. No doubt this is the case; we do not say that nuns are naturally cruel or convents generally the scenes of crime. But we do say that where such communities are secluded from public inspection such things as this Cracow history are not unlikely to happen, for devotees, whether men or women, are often strangely steeled against mercy, and will act without scruple where the credit of their creed, their order, or their particular community is concerned.

We do not know the circumstances under which this nun, Barbara Abryk, was immured. When she was released the other day she spoke of herself as having broken the vow of chastity, and one account makes her address the bystanders in the coarsest language. This may be the effect of her madness, and there is no positive proof of her having committed any fault previous to her incarceration. For the credit of the convent we will hope that this is the case—that she was really mad before she was placed in the cell, and that she was placed there because she was mad. The other supposition would transport us back to the most horrible romance of convent life. To assume that the nuns shut up an erring Sister in a den and kept her there for twenty-one years in darkness, cold, and nakedness till she fell a victim to madness which they at first falsely imputed to her would be not unnatural if we could admit that the practices charged against the religious bodies of Western Europe three or four centuries since still linger among the Catholics of Poland. A more charitable supposition is that this woman was originally crazed, and that her craziness took, perhaps, the form of unfounded calumnies respecting the Sisters. This would account for their desire to hide her for ever from the world, to give her no chance of uttering her scandals even to the keepers of a madhouse. The nuns are secluded from the rest of human kind; they give their evidence, as it appears, with a thick veil on their faces; they live alone with probably little interference even from the Church, and it was in their power to dispose of their unhappy Sister without exciting the smallest inquiry. They are cut off from the world. The mad nun was only placed in a deeper obscurity. For twenty-one years she was never asked for, and, as it appears, never missed. At last an anonymous letter reveals the whole story.

This story is that the nun Barbara Abryk was born in the year 1817, that she joined the convent of barefooted Carmelite nuns in 1841, and that in 1848 she was shut up in the place where she was found the other day. Thus, for twenty-one years did these miserable women keep their dreadful secret. Nuns must have died and new ones have been admitted, and yet, if the ecclesiastical authorities speak truly, not one of them allowed any mention of the imprisoned woman to pass her lips. Speak of women not being able to keep a secret after that! The magistracy and the public knew nothing of the matter. The nunnery is described as situated in one of the prettiest faubourgs of Cracow, near the Botanical Gardens, a favourite resort of the citizens. It was in no secluded country convent where the inmates see from year to year none but the peasantry of the neighbourhood. Any one within could communicate in a few minutes with the authorities of a large city, or with men of liberal principles and resolute will who would not have allowed such a scandal to remain unexposed. But the Carmelites kept their own counsel. The ignorance of the Church authorities is the most extraordinary part of the business. When the police came to the convent they had a difficulty in gaining admittance, but obtained it owing to the presence with them of the Bishop's deputy. The Sister who received them shrank back on hearing that they had come to look at Barbara Abryk. We need not repeat here the horrible details of what they found. But when the Bishop was sent for and came, he is said to have been as indignant as any one, and to have reproached the Sisters in the most severe terms. It is evident that, even if it was known that a Sister of unsound mind remained in the convent, there was no suspicion in any one's mind that she was being treated with such atrocious cruelty.

What are we to say of the nuns who, practising the most ascetic observances of religion, were capable of such enormities? To shut up a woman, still young, in a dungeon a few feet wide, to leave her there year after year without clothing or fire, wallowing in filth, and, with her wailings and curses in their ears, to go daily through the long routine of religious service, has in it something diabolical. Reckless and hardened men, the inmates of the thieves' tavern or the gaol, would hardly have had the nerve to bear it. These seared consciences and these perverted minds felt no compunction. Had they not their Confessor, who listened to all they had to say, questioned them as to their sins, and lectured them on their duty? We may wonder whether he ever told them that to keep a fellow-creature in cold and filth without an effort to restore her to health, was a crime which no zeal for the interests of the convent could justify. Whatever his exhortations, they failed of effect; he acquiesced in the misdeed, and kept the secret of his flock. The incident will tend to confirm the repulsion with which Protestants regard these institutions. But it will do more. It will assist in the abrogation of those ecclesiastical privileges by which religious communities have been enabled, particularly in the Austrian Empire, to render themselves almost independent of the civil power.

PARLIAMENTARY.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

On Thursday last week in the Lords the Public Schools Act (1868) Amendment Bill, and the Metropolis Poor Act (1867) Amendment Bill were read a second time. The County Courts Admiralty Jurisdiction Act (1868). Amendment Bill, and the Contagious Diseases Bill were passed through committee, and the Prevention of Gaming (Scotland) Bill was read a third time and passed.

On the Friday the second reading of the Married Women's Property Bill, moved by Lord PENZANCE, was opposed by the Duke of NORTHUMBERLAND, on the ground that its effect would be to revolutionise the marriage laws of the country, though he did not deny that some modifications of the existing law and practice were required.

The principle of the measure was, however, supported by the Lord CHANCELLOR, Lord CAIRNS, and Lord ROMILLY, who at the same time suggested considerable alterations in its details.

The Earl of SHAFTESBURY recommended caution in proceeding with a bill, the operation of which would materially affect the relations of married life.

The Earl of HARROWBY followed with a few observations, and eventually the bill was read a second time.

The Civil Offices (Pensions) Bill was also read a second time; as was the Trades' Unions (Protection of Funds) Bill; and progress was made with several other orders.

On Tuesday, the Telegraph Bill and some measures of minor importance were read a second time; the Courts of Justice Salaries Bill was passed through committee; and the Civil Offices Pensions Bill, the Evidence Amendment Bill, the Insolvent Debtors and Bankruptcy Repeal Bill, and the Trades' Unions (Protection of Funds) Bill were severally read a third time and passed.

The Contagious Diseases (Animals) Bill was also read a third time; but, on the motion that it do pass,

The Marquis of SALISBURY proposed an amendment authorising railway companies to make an extra charge for disinfecting cattle in transit.

Earl DE GREY and RIFON objected, on the ground that the duty was not now imposed upon the companies for the first time, and the amendment not being persisted in, the bill was passed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

In the Commons on the Wednesday, Mr. C. FORSTER detailed, in reply to a question from Sir F. Heygate, the steps which the Government had taken to suppress agrarian outrages in Ireland, adding, however, that, as a whole, the condition of the country was satisfactory.

The second reading of the annual bill for the Abolition of Capital Punishment was moved by Mr. GILPIN, who repeated the arguments so often used in favour of the measure, and

contended that executions deteriorated the moral sense of the masses and did not act as a deterrent to those who were disposed to commit atrocious crimes. He insisted that public opinion was gradually pronouncing in favour of abolition, and that the time was drawing near when the English statute-book would be purged of its blood-law, and society would be relieved from the awful responsibility of shedding innocent blood.

The motion was seconded by Mr. R. N. FOWLER, who quoted statistics to show that crimes formerly visited with death had diminished since a more merciful age had substituted secondary punishments for death.

Mr. J. D. LAWS, in moving that the bill be read a second time that day three months, denied that juries hesitated to convict for murder because they were opposed to death punishment, and pointed out that if the law were changed it would become necessary to revise the whole of our criminal code, as it would be impossible to sentence a prisoner to penal servitude for life for offences short of murder.

After a short debate and a reply from Mr. GILPIN, the House divided, when the amendment was carried by 118 to 58. The bill was consequently lost.

On the Thursday the ATTORNEY-GENERAL stated, in reply to a question from Mr. White, that as the Privy Council had dealt with the coronation oath in the reign of George IV., when it became necessary to modify its form, the Government were of opinion that the Council was equally competent to make any change in it that might become necessary consequent upon the dissolution of the State Church in Ireland.

Mr. CHARLEY observed that although he had heard the reply of the Attorney-General to the question put by Mr. White; yet he was by no means satisfied; and he wished to know whether the recent act for the abolition of the Established Church in Ireland would not interfere with the Queen's conscience in the matter of the coronation oath, whereby she swore to maintain the legislative union between the two Churches.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL declined to follow Mr. Charley into any discussion as to the conscientious considerations involved, and repeated that the Privy Council had full power to adapt the form of oath to the altered state of circumstances that had arisen.

Mr. FAWCETT moved to omit the sum of £3,374 14s. for presents and gratuities given by the Duke of Edinburgh at the Cape and Australia, also the sum of £68, the cost of conveyance of Prince Christian and the Duchess of Mecklenburgh-Strelitz between Dover and Calais.

Mr. AYRTON explained that as the visits of his royal highness were to some extent official the late Government considered it desirable that a sum of £3,000 should be set aside for making presents in excess of the amount allowed for expenses. After a short discussion the vote was agreed.

On Friday, on the motion for going into committee of supply on the remaining estimates, Mr. DISRAELI said he had received a letter from Messrs. Agnew and Co., the picture dealers of Manchester, stating that they were the persons who had outbid the trustees of the National Portrait Gallery at the sale of the Hogarths the other day, but that on hearing that the nation desired to become the possessors of the portrait of Hogarth by himself they would be happy to resign their bargain and allow it to be added to the National Portrait Gallery.

The House having gone into committee, agreed to the remaining estimates for the civil service, inclusive of the revenue, post-office, telegraph, and supplementary votes.

On the order for the committee on Fortifications (Provision for Expenses) Bill, Mr. TAYLOR expressed his astonishment that an Administration pledged to economy should venture to propose a bill of this sort, involving an expenditure of a million and a half for the execution of works which everybody now admitted were useless. He was not prepared to throw good money after bad, and the outlay already incurred might as well have been cast into the sea. He moved as an amendment the House go into committee that day month.

Mr. CARDWELL observed that if the question were now for the first time raised whether these fortifications should be built, the proposal of Mr. Taylor would be a suitable one; but that was not the case, the question being whether, having completed four-fifths of the works, the remainder should be finished or not. The bill proceeded on the principle that the works in progress should be completed at once, and as economically as possible, and that those not yet commenced should be abandoned.

After some remarks from Colonel Stepney and Mr. White, the House divided, and resolved to go into committee by 100 to 32.

In committee, Captain BEAUMONT moved to amend the first clause by reducing the sum of £1,500,000, required for the works, to the extent of £225,000, which would represent the saving to be effected by completing the "Horse Sand" and "No Man's Land Forts," at Spithead, with one tier of guns instead of two.

Mr. CARDWELL, in opposing the amendment, exhorted the committee, alike for reasons of economy and efficiency, to consent to the completion of the forts according to the original design, which had received the approval of the highest military authorities, including Sir J. Burgoyne, the Fortifications Commissioners, and the Defence Commissioners, all of whom had decided against constructing the Spithead forts with a single tier of guns. The works were wanted, not to protect a fleet which could take care of itself, but to defend the great naval arsenal at Portsmouth which provisioned and supplied the fleet, by denying the access of a hostile force even to the neighbourhood of the dockyard.

Mr. MUNTZ expressed himself much more dissatisfied than ever after hearing the statement of the Minister for War.

The committee then divided, and the amendment was negatived by 82 to 73, or a majority of nine for Ministers.

Subsequently the bill was passed through committee. On Saturday there was short morning sitting, but nothing of any particular public importance was done. The same may be said of Monday.

On Tuesday Mr. C. DENISON gave notice that he intended next session to call attention to the state of the law under which railway companies were liable to be mulcted in damages by juries for injuries inflicted upon passengers.

Mr. GRAVES also announced that he intended to submit a resolution in favour of a reduction of international postage, and the substitution of a halfpenny for a penny stamp on newspapers.

On the motion for going into committee on East India revenue accounts,

Mr. GRANT-DUFF proceeded (in a House of about thirty

members) to make the annual statement on the financial position of India.

Mr. LAMBERT drew attention to the financial position of this country with regard to the national debt, and moved that in the opinion of the House it was desirable that steps should be taken gradually to reduce the national debt. The hon. gentleman suggested the imposition of an income tax at 1s. in the pound, which would raise 25 millions a year, and, with the aid of compound interest, extinguish the national indebtedness in 32½ years.

Mr. MACPHE seconded the motion, which, however, was opposed by the Chancellor, the right hon. gentleman contending that the national debt had been reduced by £37,819,000 within the last 10 years, and that if we could but keep clear of "just and necessary wars" the process of diminution might go on at the same satisfactory rate.

The motion was then withdrawn.

Mr. EYKYN, in moving an address for papers, called attention to the charge made by the police against three young men on the night of the 30th June last, and tried before Mr. Knox, the police magistrate at Marlborough-street, who dismissed the case with observations strongly condemnatory of the conduct and evidence of the police.

In the course of the discussion that ensued some strong comments were made by Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. KINNAIRD, and others on excess of duty by the police; while the HOME SECRETARY having thrown some doubt upon the wisdom of the decision pronounced by the police magistrate, declined to interfere in the matter, and pointed out that the proper remedy for the defendants would be to summon the police for excess of duty. Mr. R. GRANT expressed himself dissatisfied with the statement of Mr. Bruce, and Mr. JESSEL commented upon the want of a public prosecutor in connection with such cases.

THE GARDEN.

FLOWER GARDEN.

SINCE last we wrote one or two good fertilizing showers have fallen, and the flower beds look all the brighter for them. More rain would be acceptable, however, for the soil is still very parched.

Roses should receive some attention this month. Continue budding: all the brier stocks not fit hitherto will now take buds nicely. Loosen the ties of those first budded. Manettias will take buds at the end of the month. Now is a good time to put in cuttings of short nearly ripe shoots, and also of shoots that have flowered. With all roses keep cuttings and eyes alive and fresh by sprinkling their tops frequently rather than making the soil they are in very wet.

If verbenas are spread out and pegged down, they will put out roots at every joint, and give an abundance of young plants for the next season. These should be separated from the parent plants before the weather gets at all cold, and carefully housed to establish themselves. To keep up a succession of blooms, nip off all flower stalks the moment the blossoms get shabby, and never suffer the plants to seed.

It is now quite time, especially as the season is so forward, to commence sowing for the propagation and preservation of bedding plants. Cuttings of geraniums will root readily in the open ground, but select a south border for the planting if possible. If the soil is heavy, it is as well to mix a little river sand or other gritty substance with the surface soil. In ordinary loams this is not required. The beds being ready, the cuttings should be inserted and made firm; and after they are all put in, they should have one good watering to settle everything in its place; they may then be left to themselves till ready for potting. The cuttings should be put in about an inch apart in the rows, the rows four inches from each other. Calceolarias may be struck and preserved through the winter in cold frames. The miscellaneous bedders, such as verbenas, heliotropes, petunias, &c., are best propagated on a mild hotbed. Lobelia speciosa may be raised from seed; the varieties of speciosa should be raised from cuttings. The best plan is to cut a few plants down, and to keep them well watered, to furnish cuttings. A few plants of each kind should be planted in a shady corner, and then there will be no difficulty in the matter. L. speciosa should be treated in the same way if cuttings are wanted.

PLANT-HOUSES AND FRAMES.

Conservatory.—See that nothing planted out says the *Gardener's Magazine*, suffers for the want of a proper supply of moisture at the roots. Examine the borders frequently, and water them immediately it becomes necessary. On the other hand, guard against keeping them too wet. Half the complaints that reach us about the buds of tacsonias and other climbers dropping are caused by the roots being neglected. Camellias and oranges must have particular attention. Fuchsias that have now been in flower some time should be assisted with regular supplies of moderately weak manure.

Greenhouse.—Azaleas that require training should have the young shoots tied in before the wood gets hard and firm. Still keep them in the open air. Let none of the hard-wooded plants suffer from drought at this season, for any neglect now will be fatal to their blooming well next year. Propagate hydrangeas, and shake out and repot pelargoniums, as previously advised.

Frames.—Sow polyanthus, pansies, and calceolarias. Pot off seedlings and shift on young plants of any of the above, also primulas and cinerarias. The latter, if planted out as advised in former *Calendars*, will have formed fine offsets, which will now be in the best condition for taking off and potting. Keep close for a few days afterwards.

KITCHEN GARDEN.

Careful attention must be paid to getting in the crops for the coming winter and spring. Sowing the seed a week or fortnight before or after the proper time makes all the difference between a good and bad crop. The soil and situation must be studied by the cultivator. In cold situations the crops will require to be got in a fortnight earlier than in others considerably warmer. When such things as cauliflowers, endive, and lettuce, for standing over the winter, are sown several weeks too soon, they grow too large and gross, and generally bolt as soon as they begin to start in the following spring. Tomatoes require every encouragement that can be afforded; look over them frequently, and stop back the young shoots, or the vigour of the plants will be expended in the production of a lot of useless wood, instead of bringing the crop of fruit to perfection. The young shoots that are allowed to grow should be fastened to the wall, so that the

fruit is fully exposed to the light. Crops of turnips just coming up should be carefully watched, and directly the first fly makes its appearance sprinkle them with soot. Another sowing should also be made this week for late autumn use.

FRUIT-GARDEN.

All fruit intended to be preserved on the trees as long as possible after reaching maturity must be looked sharply after, or the birds will soon make short work of it. Mat up bush-trees, and hang nets over trees trained to walls. The nets must be fastened at least a foot from the wall, or the large birds will hang upon them and help themselves through the meshes. It is also necessary to secure the nets at the bottom with a few pegs. These minor matters are well known certainly, but no harm will be done in calling attention to them, as they are frequently lost sight of until it is too late to rectify the omission. This is a capital time for budding all kinds of fruit-trees, as the buds generally are now sufficiently advanced, and the stocks are in nice working condition. Insert the buds on wood of last or the preceding season, otherwise the operation is performed in the same manner as budding the rose. Plant out strawberry-runners, as they will suffer if kept too long in these small pots in which they were rooted. Those already planted out will soon start into vigorous growth, and make fine crowns, with the assistance of a few cans of water until they make fresh roots. Look over fruit-trees and cut clean away any small weakly shoots that are interfering with the free development of others required for fruit-bearing, both on pyramid and wall trees. Nail in the young growth of the latter: fastening them back with pieces of wood is objectionable, because it is impossible to spread them out regularly, or lay the young shoots in perfectly straight.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL.

FRANCE.

PARIS, July 30, Evening.

M. LAFFERRIERE, one of the editors of the *Rappel*, has been sentenced, for attacks against the Prefect of Police, to one month's imprisonment and a fine of 200fr.

The Court of Appeal has quashed to-day the judgment of the Tribunal of Correctional Police, which had acquitted the *Rappel*, prosecuted for publishing false news, and has sentenced M. Barbier, the manager and M. Lockroy, one of the editors, each to a month's imprisonment and a fine of 500fr.

PARIS, July 31, Evening.

Mr. Tailfer, cashier of the Union Assurance Company, accused of having embezzled nearly 1,500,000 francs, and M. Pic, chief editor of the *Standard*, charged with having received part of that money, well knowing it had been stolen, were sentenced, the former to seven years' penal servitude, and the latter to 12 years' hard labour.

Advices received here state that the Carlist conspiracy is gaining ground in Spain, and that Toledo and Avila have pronounced in favour of Don Carlos.

The rumour that the Empress intends, during her visit to the East, to support the demands of the Roman Catholics with regard to the Holy Sepulchre, is formally contradicted. That question having been settled by an International Convention, there is no intention whatever of again broaching the matter.

PARIS, August 3, Evening.

The *France* of this evening states that Queen Isabella is disposed to abdicate in favour of her son, the Prince of the Asturias.

SWEDEN.

STOCKHOLM, July 28.

The marriage of the Crown Prince of Denmark and the Princess Louise, daughter of the King, was celebrated this afternoon. Their royal highnesses left Stockholm for the Castle of Haga at eight o'clock in the evening, where they will remain some time.

An immense number of persons was present at the festivities, which took place amid great rejoicings.

A grand fête will be held on Friday at the Castle of Drottningholm.

JAPAN.

HONG KONG, July 7.

Intelligence received from Japan states that the finances of that country are very disorganised, and that paper money is being forced on the people under pain of death. Trade, both native and foreign, is paralysed.

AMERICA.

The negroes in Texas are suffering greatly from destitution, caused by the recent floods.

Mr. Isaac Soucey, formerly Secretary of the Navy under President Buchanan, is dead.

NEW YORK, August 3.

Intelligence has been received from Cuba stating that a large force of negroes in insurrection attacked Puerto Principe on the 28th ult., but were repulsed.

Mr. JEFFERSON DAVIS, the late President of the Confederate States of America, is now making a tour through Scotland, accompanied by Dr. Chas. Mackay.

THE INTERNATIONAL BOAT RACE.—This event progresses favourably, but does not yet engross a large amount of public attention. The American crew went out early on Saturday and then repaired to Staines to witness the regatta, with the arrangements of which they were highly pleased. They did not return to head-quarters till late on Saturday evening. Those who have watched the Oxford crew while at work upon the water speak very hopefully of their prospects in the forthcoming race. They have had, and are having, the advantage of a quiet and untroubled course of training. At Pangbourne they will row in a boat built by Salter of Oxford. Mr. J. C. Tinné, the heaviest man of the crew, but a powerful hand at an oar, is the president of the Oxford University Boat Club. During their training upon the Thames at Eton the Oxford crew have had the disadvantage of extremely warm weather, but the recent slight change and the cooler atmosphere induced by the late showers will be much in their favour. The crew before leaving Black Potts had got into most excellent form.



IN THIS CELEBRATED PICTURE OF "RAMSGATE SANDS," IN THREE SECTIONS: SECTION II.



HARVEST FETE IN LOWER NORMANDY.—(SEE PAGE 1356.)

Private Theatricals.

BY FREDERIC S. COZZENS.

I AM a medical man by profession, and a quack in practice. Now understand me. I am a regular practitioner—college-bred—studied with old Dr. Trichianosis, got a diploma from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, and am empowered legally to do what I please with my patients—"patients on a monument" (Shakespeare), or under one? he! he!—and so far am regular. But the quackery lies in the way I practise. To tell you the truth, I am by nature a humorist, and would dote upon a joke, within the limits of becoming mirth; but I dare not do it. It would ruin my practice; I should lose all my patients, that is to say, I should lose *all* of them, whereas now I only lose some of them; so I have schooled myself to a degree of seriousness that is as good as a fortune to me. Here is where I applaud myself for being a quack. I believe I could even stand by the bedside of old Dr. Phineas B. Mumps my rival, and see him depart, without a smile on my lips, although I know the old rascal has been trying to get my patients away all his life, and I know also that I would have my pick of his as soon as the breath was out of his body. But if I show no outward and visible signs of the mirth that rages within me, I suffer a great deal from congestion of the jocose membranes. That is a complaint not in the books, but it ought to be.

One very cold winter the poor became so alarmingly numerous in our village that the price of bread and coal nearly doubled in value. The consequence was that the Ladies' United Tatting and Crochet Association for the Amelioration of the Condition of Meritorious Poor held a meeting, and it was determined to give an entertainment at the village hall for the benefit of the unfortunate. But what kind of entertainment? Never had anything in our slow and sleepy village been seen beyond lectures and negro minstrels; and so when the proposition was made "to have the amateur theatrical entertainment," some of the elderly female officers of the meeting nearly fainted away. The proposition was at once indignantly voted down, but the thought had taken root, and it was not long before it developed itself outside of the Society. Those members who had the rosiest cheeks and the brightest eyes and the softest curls would persist in asking serious people, like myself, for instance, and the clergy of the different denominations whether really there was any arm in the performance, if the play had no swearing in it, and the funds collected were for a good object. The answers being perfectly satisfactory, you should have seen how the contagion spread! Finally it was arranged that there should be an amateur performance; that the word "dramatic" should be suppressed, out of regard to the tender consciences of several families who would not attend if it was called by that name, but who would subscribe for tickets if it were simply an "entertainment." The business of preparation was placed in the hands of a committee of gentlemen, and the time of performance fixed at two weeks from the date by the ladies of the Society—with a request that the play should be *Hamlet*. The com-

mittee had but little to do in two weeks. They had only to cast the piece so as to allot proper persons to the different characters; the performers had to study their parts, rehearse, and get ready their costumes; the stage manager had to provide all the scenery; and as the rural stage had no conveniences, carpenters were to be suborned to supply the necessary slides, grooves, gear, and tackle; the property man was enjoined to get foils and bowls of poison, skulls and spades for the grave-diggers, and everything—so that nothing should be wanting to prevent our having a lively time of it.

Oh, how I wanted to play Polonius! I knew the part by heart, but it would ruin me in my professional practice if I ever ventured to reveal that I had a mind acute enough to discern the points of that wonderful character.

However, the play of *Hamlet* had to be given up. When the committee requested the gentlemen, at a subsequent meeting, to write down their names on a slip of paper, with the characters they would be willing to assume in this celebrated tragedy, they found in the hat nine names for *Hamlet*, and not one for anything else. Then in regard to the carpenter—he wanted a month at least to prepare his fixtures. As for the scenery, that had not been ordered yet. Some of the ladies suggested that we might go to a theatre and borrow some old scenery that they did not want to use. But that was objected to upon the ground that as regular stage scenery was usually thirty, forty, or even fifty feet high, and as our amateur stage had a clear headroom of only twelve feet, we could not stand up the borrowed scenes even if we had them. Upon which they proposed to play *Hamlet* without scenery. On consideration it was found this proposition would not answer. So after due deliberation it was determined to abandon *Hamlet*, and to play the *Dead Shot*, with *Bombastes Furioso* as the after-piece. Six weeks were allowed for the preparation of even these slight pieces, but then we had nothing ready, and had to get everything made.

The Figaro of the whole affair was Mr. Lempriere, the young banker. Under his active management the preparations were all completed in due time. It invariably happens in amateur performances that something is forgotten which spoils the whole play. Mr. Lempriere forgot nothing. He had the scenery painted and the carpenter's work completed; he had the broken china and pistols for the *Dead Shot*; the dash of red paint for the supposed death-wound; the punch-bowl, ladle, pipes, tobacco, foils and boots for *Bombastes*—everything, in fact, provided, so that the actors had nothing to do but to learn their parts. Then they were drilled by book, R. H. U. E. and C. and exit L. H., and all the choruses were rehearsed on various pianos in our suburban village; and nothing was wanting. I say nothing was wanting—I am mistaken—one performer was wanting. Every other character in the farce and the burlesque was beautifully filled except the part of the tall grenadier in the army of *Bombastes*. No one could be found to take that part. How I wanted to do it! I was fitted for the character, being six feet two inches high. As the time rolled on toward the opening night, and no one volunteered, my fingers' ends thrilled with the pent-up desire within me. Nobody thought of asking me to play the part—the gravest man in Goose Common! So I began to fish for an invitation. I called upon Figaro. "Sir," said I, in my pro-

fessional voice, "I see no harm in this proposed entertainment, if conducted, as it will be, with a due regard to decorum and public opinion. In fact, I do not think, grave and serious as is my nature, that I would hesitate even to take a part in it myself, provided I had no study to perplex me, and that I could be so disguised that no one would know me, for in all benevolent enterprises for the benefit of the poor I am ready to lend a helping hand, both professionally and otherwise." There was but one prominent thought in the mind of Figaro, and that was how to get some one to play the tall grenadier. So after hopping about in a very ridiculous manner, snapping his fingers, and surveying my tall thin form with evident satisfaction, he said, in a whisper, "Suppose there was just such a character, would you undertake it?" "Ah, my friend," said I, gravely, "do not ask me; I would not participate in a stage dialogue for the world." "But," responded Figaro, "if I could find a part in which you would not have a word to say; and the *make-up* would so effectually disguise you that your own wife would not know you, would you—just for this once—be willing to undertake it for the sake of helping a benevolent enterprise?"

"If there was such a part, and nobody else could be had to fill it I might promise to do it, for the sake of hu—man—ity!"

"Then," said he, taking out his tablets, "you are booked for the tall soldier in the army of *Bombastes*. Here's the play; study your part; no rehearsal needed; I'll tell nobody, you'll tell nobody—"

"Nobody, nobody, nobody, no!"

and nobody will be the wiser," and he went on reciting his part—

"Loved Distaffina! Now, by my scars I vow,
Scars got—I haven't time to tell you how;
By all the risks my fearless heart hath run,
Risks of all shapes, from bludgeon, sword, and gun,
Steel traps, the patrol, bailiff shrewd—and dun;
By the great bunch of laurels on my brow,
Ne'er did thy charms exceed their present glow!"

But I had to interrupt him and take my leave.

Doctor Seneca booked for the big soldier in *Bombastes Furioso*! How completely I'll disguise myself, and how I'll astonish them—wife and all! Lempriere is a banker, and knows how to keep a secret; how I'll roll mine like a rich morsel under the tongue! Nobody shall ever know who played the part of the tall soldier, and I will play it so they will all want to know; and won't I hear of it when I visit my patients next morning! Let me see what the text says:

"R. Enter *Bombastes*, attended by one drummer, one fifer, and two soldiers, all very materially differing in size."

I do not know how the others will appear; but I shall very materially differ in size from three of them.

That very night I began to prepare. I could not have had a more favourable opportunity. My wife had gone to the United Tatting and Crochet Association, as it was the regular night; my man, Dutch Joe, drove her there in the family chariot, which consisted of one horse and a vehicle that, for want of a better name, I had christened the *Rigmarole*. That I might not be disturbed, I went down in the kitchen to tell the girls they need not attend to the study grate, as I would

see to it myself; that they might bring up a pitcher of cold water; and if they wished to visit the neighbours' girls, they might go for a couple of hours, which favour they did not refuse. So, going up to my study again, I sat down and smilingly began to think over affairs. In the first place, I must have a heavy black moustache and beard; they could easily be procured in the city. But then my nose was long, straight, and thin—a peculiar nose. What was I to do with it? Over a black moustache and beard it would be more conspicuously noted—perhaps recognised at once. There was not another nose like it in Goose Common. Couldn't the tip be turned up with a thread running behind my ears so as to make a snub of it? I tried it, and it was capital in effect; but the sharp-edged thread was highly irritating to the pugnacious organ. That wouldn't do. Could I enlarge my nostrils by stuffing them full of cotton? I tried this; but nature—always ready with contrivances of her own to rid herself of encumbrances—came to the rescue with such a tremendous sneeze, as I was packing the cotton into its place, that it blew both plugs out and across the room. So that had to be abandoned.

(To be concluded next week.)

CRIMES AND CASUALTIES.

A BOY, fourteen years of age, named Tresser, who resided at Hendon, quarrelled with his father, a tradesman of that place, and in a fit of passion went and hanged himself.

FANNY OLIVER will not be hanged, the sentence of death having been commuted to one of penal servitude for life on the recommendation of Baron Pigott, who tried the prisoner.

In the late conflagration in Gelfe 700 houses were destroyed and 8,000 of the inhabitants have been deprived of their homes. The loss of the insurance companies is about 3,600,000 rixdallars.

A TERRIBLE colliery accident, of which no particulars are given, is reported from Dresden. It occurred in the Burg colliery, in the valley called the Plauenscher Grund, near Dresden. Upwards of 200 colliers lost their lives.

The young girl Elizabeth Warburton, who was found senseless on the railway at Hendon, is reported to be making satisfactory progress, but the doctors at St. Mary's Hospital, where she still lies, do not consider it safe to allow her to be questioned at present.

A SHOCKING case of suicide has occurred at Sheffield. A knife cutler, who it is stated had been drinking for five weeks, threw himself from an attic window, and died almost immediately from the frightful injuries which he had sustained.

THE COWCATCHER.—A little child, four years old, near Kukomo, Indiana, suddenly appeared on the railroad track as a train was passing at a rapid rate, and was picked up by the cowcatcher, thrown 15 feet high in the air, and landed in a ditch without injury.

RAILWAY COLLISION.—The Carlisle express to Edinburgh came into collision with a goods train at Portobello on Saturday evening. Several persons were hurt, and a number of waggons destroyed. The driver of the express has been apprehended.

THE NEWARK horse-stealer, who so cleverly escaped by jumping out of a train while passing through a tunnel, has been recaptured. He was found concealed in a shed with the handcuffs still on his wrists, and after undergoing an involuntary fast of more than forty-eight hours.

A JURYMAN named Tuckfield, at the Middlesex sessions, took into court with him a bag containing watches and money to the value of £150, which he placed under a seat. On the rising of the court he found the bag where he had placed it, but its contents had disappeared, and have not been heard of.

At the Maidstone assizes the soldier named Tracey Clayton has been tried for attempted murder. Clayton committed an outrage upon a little girl only ten years old, and then threw her over Shakespeare's Cliff. How the child escaped being killed is something wonderful. She did escape, however, with slight injuries. He was convicted, and sentenced to penal servitude for life.

COLLIERY ACCIDENT IN YORKSHIRE.—The rope of the Aldmarke Main Colliery, near Rotherham, broke a few days ago, and the cage, laden with coals, fell to the bottom. There were above 200 men and boys in the pit, and though a new rope was obtained as early as possible, it was ten o'clock before they were rescued, having been imprisoned six hours.

THE UXBRIDGE MURDER.—Mr. Jonas, the governor of Newgate Prison, has received a respite for the convict William Murray, who, it will be remembered, was sentenced to death at the last session of the Central Criminal Court by Lord Chief Justice Bovill, for the wilful murder of Frederick Redrup, at Uxbridge, by cutting his throat with a razor whilst in a state of intoxication.

DEATHS FROM LIGHTNING.—Two persons lost their lives by lightning three days back at Vivert, France. A farmer, named Jean Bessy, with his two sons, a niece, and a labourer, were at work in a field when a storm came on; they took refuge under an oak, but shortly afterwards the electric fluid struck the tree, and killed the father and the elder son, aged 22. The servant received a serious shock, and the two others were slightly burnt.

COMMITTAL OF MINERS FOR INTIMIDATION.—At the Barnsley Court-house, Matthew Hobson, Henry Castle, Abraham Hobson, Henry Tasker, and Alfred Bird were charged with intimidating Aaron Armitage, of the New Sovereign Colliery. The complainant, upon his going to work, had been followed by a number of men, the defendants among them, and shouted at and otherwise annoyed. The Hobsons were sentenced to one month's imprisonment, the other defendants to 14 days.

SHOCKING ACCIDENT.—ELEVEN MEN KILLED.—A deplorable accident took place a few days back at Douai, involving the loss of eleven lives. At about two in the afternoon twelve workmen were being hoisted in one of the usual baskets of a coal pit called the Fosse Notre-Dame, and had reached a height of 60 feet, when an earthquake took place many yards above their heads, and a block of stone striking one of the upper corners of the hoist, precipitated it with its contents to the bottom. Underneath was deep water, but only one man survived this terrible fall.

Numerous burglaries and attempted burglaries have been reported in the neighbourhood of Hitchin and Royston. At Ashwell, the railway station was broken into and the private office ransacked; at Kington, the rectory was entered and a quantity of valuable family plate carried off; in the vicarage at Weston two burglars were surprised by the female servants

packing up plate, and managed to make good their retreat with a portion of their intended booty before assistance could be obtained; and at Baldock, the house of Mr. Jenner, a surgeon, was entered and a gold watch and chain and several articles of jewellery stolen. The police have made no discoveries at present; but local suspicion falls upon the Irish beggars who are wandering about in gangs.

A LADY BURNT TO DEATH.—A shocking occurrence is reported from Leatherland, near Liverpool. Mrs. Hope, the wife of Mr. W. Hope, wholesale grocer and tea dealer, Stanley-street, Liverpool, who resides at New Brighton View, Linacre-road, Leatherland, was engaged in her kitchen, the servant being in the upper part of the house, and the children elsewhere. The front of her dress swept the bars of the grate, and before she was aware of it was in flames. Her cries for help speedily brought the assistance of her servant and some neighbours. Water was thrown on the flames, but before the efforts to extinguish them were successful the unfortunate lady was severely burnt. She also suffered internal injury, and died soon afterwards. Mrs. Hope was about 40 years of age, and has left several children.

ACCIDENT TO HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE ARTHUR.—On Friday his Royal Highness Prince Arthur, Lieutenant Royal Horse Artillery, while out on Woolwich-common with the B Battery, 4th Brigade, to which he is attached, met with an accident. It appears that his Royal Highness has a splendid horse which is known to be rather difficult to control, and while standing at ease the animal became restive and made a sudden plunge, and took the Prince so unawares that he was jerked completely out of the saddle to the ground. Fortunately his Royal Highness received no injury whatever, and was on his feet again in a moment. The horse scampered off across the common in the direction of the stables, where it pulled up of its own accord, and was soon after led back to its Royal master, who remounted and remained in the saddle for the rest of the time he was on duty.

FATAL PANIC IN A CATHEDRAL.—The *Pungolo* of Naples publishes an account of a frightful catastrophe at Trani. A religious festival was being celebrated in the cathedral, and a large ornament of wood, covered with gauze and lighted with thousands of tapers, had been erected in the centre of the nave. In the middle of the service the drapery caught fire, and the flames mounted in a moment to the top of the structure. Many persons stood calmly looking on, while others were quietly leaving the building, when a cry of "The roof is falling in!" was raised by some unknown voice. A general rush to the doors was then made, and in the confusion a number of men, women, and children were thrown down and trampled on. When order was restored, 16 dead bodies were found on the ground, with a great number of persons seriously injured. The fire, which had been the first cause of this calamity, was eventually got under.

ATTEMPT TO DESTROY A HOUSEHOLD.—On Monday morning, about two o'clock, the inmates of the Dolphin Tavern, Redcross-street, Borough, the property of Mr. Cusack, had a narrow escape of being burnt to death, for some evil-disposed person had by some means got into the building and wilfully set it on fire in no fewer than 14 separate places. Some of the residents had to jump out of back windows, others had to be conducted down the stairs just as they commenced cracking with the intense heat, and the smoke being nearly overpowering. The flames could not be subdued until the fire had travelled through every room and done a vast amount of injury. Fortunately Mr. Cusack was insured in the Liverpool and London and Globe Fire Office. The salvage corps and brigade, upon going over the premises, were perfectly satisfied that the place had been wilfully ignited in not fewer than 14 places, and Captain Shaw returns the cause of the fire as "incendiarism."

WHOLESALE APPREHENSION OF ENGLISH PICKPOCKETS IN GERMANY.—For some time past the principal watering-places in Germany have been infested by an organised gang of English pickpockets, who have carried on their depredations to an alarming extent, particularly at Ems, Homburg, and Frankfurt-on-the-Maine. Grown bold by success, one of them, a man named Henry Keen, had the audacity to attempt to rob Fazil Pasha, the brother to the Viceroy of Egypt, of £2,500 while he was at Homburg; but the delinquent was detected, and immediately apprehended. For that affair he was sentenced to 18 months' imprisonment, with hard labour. The police at Frankfurt-on-the-Maine, under the able direction of Dr. Rumpff, have been most energetic in their efforts to catch these depredators on the public, and have succeeded in taking no less than 16 of them. Amongst the prisoners are two women, and they are all now lodged in the gaols at Frankfurt to await their trials.

ESCAPE OF A PRISONER FROM CHATHAM.—Another prisoner made his escape from the guard-room of Chatham Barracks on Thursday morning, last week. At about four o'clock it was discovered that Private Bean, 1st Battalion, 14th Regiment, who was confined to await trial by court-martial on a charge of insubordination, accompanied with personal violence, was not to be found, and it appeared that he had effected his escape by the same means that the two prisoners Pearce and Morris had done on July 1, viz., through a hole in the wall of the guard-room. The aperture, about 15 inches square, had been built up with bricks and mortar. It seems that Bean must have used a knife and fork to work away the mortar, and then removed the bricks, as a knife and fork were both found at the spot. The prisoner took away with him a suit of civilian clothes belonging to another prisoner who was confined in the same room, and is about to be tried by court-martial for desertion.

A VERY brutal murder is reported from Greenock. On Sunday morning last the police of the town were called upon by two brothers, Morris Ephraim Barbour and Walter Barbour, and informed that a washerwoman had died suddenly the previous night in their house at 13, Nelson-street, West. On an officer visiting the house he found on a bed in the kitchen the dead body of Mary Reid, a widow, aged fifty. The corpse was fully dressed, and in a half sitting posture. The brothers Barbour were arrested, and in the course of the day a post-mortem examination was made on the body, the result showing that the poor woman had been violated and then murdered in a horrible manner. It appears that she was engaged in cleaning in the house of the accused, Morris Barbour, aged thirty-two, is a locomotive foreman, and his brother Walter, aged about twenty, an assistant druggist. Their object in calling at the police office was to have the body removed by the authorities. They were brought before the Greenock magistrates yesterday, and remitted on the capital charge.

CONFESSION OF THE LEADGATE MURDERER.—On Tuesday

last week Joseph Whitfield, who murdered his little girl, a Leadgate, near Newcastle, was brought before the magistrate at the Lancashire Petty Sessions, charged with the capital offence. After the witnesses had been examined, Mr. Talmadge charged the prisoner, and challenged him in the usual form. The prisoner, in reply, made a confession in the following words:—"There's nothing for me to say, but open confession's good for the soul. I am sorry I did not do so at the coroner's inquest on Tuesday. I will tell you about the razor. I deliberately took it down from the top of the press while my poor wife was getting Billy's breakfast. I went up and cut my poor little darling's throat after my wife went out. May God help me. I cut her throat, and when I had done that I awakened my other little daughter, and sent her away to see her mother." While making this statement the prisoner frequently interrupted himself by weeping bitterly. The prisoner was committed for trial for wilful murder.

ACCIDENT ON THE NORTH BRITISH RAILWAY.—The passenger train leaving Carlisle at 1.40 p.m. on Friday met with an accident about a quarter of a mile on the Hawick side of the Shankend Station, by the snapping of the axle of the leading wheels of the engine. The train was travelling at the ordinary speed, about 30 miles an hour, and the axle broke in two places close to the wheels. The detached piece of the axle first struck against a sleeper, and was driven through the floor of a third-class carriage next the tender. It struck a boy, the only passenger in the carriage, grazing and slightly bruising his shoulder. Had the lad been below instead of slightly aside from the falling axle, he must have been crushed to death. The train kept running for about a quarter of a mile beyond the spot where the accident occurred, partially damaging the line, but fortunately the carriages kept on the rails. A pilot engine from Hawick took the disabled train to Shankend, and brought it thence to Hawick on the up-line. It reached Hawick two hours behind time.

FATAL ACCIDENT ON THE MERSEY.—On Monday morning a melancholy accident happened at the mouth of the Mersey. The flat *Trafalgar*, belonging to Messrs. Evans and Co., left Winsford for Liverpool, with a cargo of salt, in charge of a man named Hetherington, who had an old man to assist him. On board was the wife of the captain, her sister, and three children. There having been a strong north-westerly wind during the night there was rather a heavy sea at the mouth of the river during the ebb. The *Trafalgar* was making for the Wellington dock about half-past nine, when a heavy sea came aboard. She began to log, and more seas coming on she filled and went down. The hold was so full that the flat was what is technically called "balked," and the hatches could not be battened down. The consequence was that when the sea came aboard she filled suddenly before the two women and three children could be got out of the cabin. These five were all drowned, but the two hands were picked up by another flat belonging to the same owners, which was also bound for the Wellington Basin, and was on the same "stretch" as the *Trafalgar* when the latter went down.

A VERY SAD FALL.—At the last usual weekly meeting of the Paddington Board of Guardians, Mr. F. J. Prescott in the chair—the chairman stated that while visiting the infirmary he had been accosted by a pauper inmate named Mr. Wood, who a few years ago was in possession of property worth from £50,000 to £60,000, was a blood relation to one of the highest peers in the realm, and whose fortunes had been completely broken by the failure of Messrs. Overend and Gurney's concern. Mr. Wood, who is now 70 years of age, after stating that he had met with every kindness from the workhouse officials, asked him (the chairman) to request the guardians to grant him a few indulgences beyond those usually accorded. The chairman added that the master and matron had frequently supplemented the diet usually allowed by little luxuries which they had paid for out of their own pockets. After the vice-chairman had expressed his regret that the law did not allow guardians to draw a line of demarcation between the treatment of the well-conditioned and ill-conditioned pauper, the board resolved that a letter be written to the peer alluded to informing him of Mr. Wood's present circumstances.

A NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICER SHOT AT DEVONPORT.—Arthur Skulien, a corporal in the 57th Regiment, was shot dead in Raglan Barracks, Devonport, on Saturday morning, by William Taylor, a private in the same regiment. Taylor was one of the defaulters of that morning, and, with them, was drilled by the deceased between seven and eight o'clock. While thus drilling the deceased discovered that Taylor, instead of being in marching order, as directed, had his knapsack empty, having left his kit in the barrack-room, and reported this delinquency to the sergeant-major. Taylor, on falling out from parade, managed to secrete a cartridge, with which he subsequently loaded his Snider rifle, and on the deceased passing within about seven paces he fired at him. The ball took effect in the back part of deceased's head, and passed out in the front, killing him instantly. The deceased had reported Taylor on previous occasions to the present. Taylor, after committing the murder, attempted to destroy himself by cutting his throat, but was prevented. An inquest was held on the body of the deceased on Saturday, and a verdict of wilful murder returned against Taylor, who had in the interim been handed over to the civil power and brought before the Devonport magistrates.

THE engineers of France and of England have pronounced against the scheme of a tunnel under the Straits of Dover. They agree that it is feasible, but the cost of the twenty-five miles would be not less than £10,000,000, and as they are by no means sanguine that so much money could be had, they consider the undertaking out of the question.

At a church in Essex lately, the clerk feeling unwell asked his friend, the railway porter, to take his place for a Sunday. He did so, but being worn out with night work fell asleep. When the hymn was announced a neighbour gave him a nudge, upon which he started up, rubbing his eyes, and called out, "Change here for Elmswell, Thurston, and Bury!"

PRINTING IN ANTIQUE TYPE.—Judd and Glass, of the Phoenix Works, St. Andrew's-hill, have, in addition to their extensive selection of Modern Types, complete Fonts of Old-faced Letters, and execute orders for large and small Printing Bills, Circulars, Reports, &c., by Steam machinery, with the utmost expedition. Estimate on application.

LUXURIANT AND BEAUTIFUL HAIR.—MRS. S. ALLEN'S WORLD'S HAIR RESTORER never fails to quickly restore Grey or Faded Hair to its youthful colour and beauty. It stops the hair from falling off. It prevents baldness. It promotes luxuriant growth; it causes the hair to grow thick and strong. It removes all dandruff. It contains neither oil nor dye. In large Bottles—Price six Shillings. Sold by Chemists and perfumers. Depot, 266, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON.

HOME AND DOMESTIC.

VACANCIES arising among the hackney carriage attendants are in future to be filled by police constables.

The French Atlantic Telegraph cable will be opened for traffic on the 15th inst. The rate on a message of ten words will be £1 12s., with a charge of 3s. 3d. for each additional word.

The inquiry ordered by the Poor Law Board into the treatment of sick paupers by the St. Pancras guardians has been adjourned to the 18th of next month.

MR. JEFFERSON DAVIS.—An attempt is making in Bourbon County, Kentucky, to raise a fund for the purchase of a home for Jefferson Davis in that, his native state. A gentleman of Louisville has offered, if 50,000 dols. or more shall be subscribed to the fund, to give a splendid building site for a house, with ten acres attached, within four miles of Louisville.

A TROUBLESOME MEMBER OF THE ROYAL HUMANE SOCIETY.—One day last week a large black dog followed a boy about 13 years of age into the Serpentine, and, seizing him by the hair after the most approved canine method of saving life, commenced to take him to the bank in spite of his struggles. As soon as the boy was released from his troublesome and self-elected saviour, it was found that his back was badly scratched and his head somewhat bitten.

An experiment is being made in Brussels which will be regarded with much curiosity in England at a moment when the change in our telegraph system is about to take place. Boxes have been put up in various parts of the town for the reception of telegraph letters, which are duly stamped and collected at frequent intervals, taken to the station and telegraphed off. The process must be surely by some invention which prints as it telegraphs, or else the difficulty of copying in time would be too great. We shall hear more of it. The process commenced last Saturday.

DEATH OF A STIPENDIARY MAGISTRATE.—Mr. Henry Leigh Trafford, the stipendiary magistrate of Salford, died on Saturday evening. It is stated that at the commencement of last week he felt indisposed, and proceeded to Wales, in the hope that a change might prove beneficial, but that the expectations of his friends were not realised, and he expired somewhat suddenly. Mr. Trafford had filled the office of stipendiary magistrate for several years, and was called to the bar by the Middle Temple in 1834.

The *Daily News* reports that on Sunday morning, in the parish church of St. Bride, Fleet-street, a tall, intelligent-looking man, very well dressed, at the close of the sermon rose from his seat, and in a loud voice read a protest against the disestablishment and disendowment of the Irish Church. The vicar from the pulpit motioned him to desist, but he read on until the two headles quietly removed him.

Not more than a dozen English volunteers attended the recent Swiss Tir Federal, but half of them took prizes. A scratch match between five Swiss and five Englishmen, ten shots at 320 and 500 yards, resulted in a victory for the former by eighteen points, and some of the Swiss papers are exultant. They say that the result shows that their marksmen are better shot than ours. It is only fair, however, to bear in mind that their team was the best they could produce, while ours was a scratch team, with only one known shot in it.

NEW BRIDGE AT GLOUCESTER-GATE, REGENT'S-PARK.—The vestry of St. Pancras, at their last meeting resolved, by a majority of 36 to 27, to construct a new bridge over the Regent's Canal, at a cost of £9,025; and a deputation was appointed to wait upon the Crown Commissioners of Public Works, and application ordered to be made to the Metropolitan Board, asking them to contribute their quota towards the carrying out of this great public improvement.

CAPTURE OF EAGLES.—In the beginning of last week Robert Lamont, shepherd, Glenchuzie, Braemar, assisted by a few of his companions in the glen, captured a pair of young golden eagles in the adjoining forest of Caer Lochau. The nest from which the birds were taken was in a very steep and rocky crag, down which Lamont had to be lowered by means of a rope a distance of some 400 feet before the young birds could be secured. The capture was safely accomplished, though attended with imminent danger.

MOST people must recollect a rather elderly man who for the last twenty years has been in the habit of driving a red fire-engine sort-of-looking coach and four horses round the streets of London. He always drove by himself, and looked and dressed like a coachman of the old school, who used to start every morning from the Bull and Mouth. His pedigree was unknown, but it was reported he had made his money in France. Well, the other day Mr. Savage—for he went by that name—died, and, strange to say, he left the whole of his money, amounting to £120,000, to no less a person than the Emperor of the French. Mr. Savage bore a great resemblance to the Emperor.

PAUPERISM IN THE METROPOLIS.—A Parliamentary return, ordered on the motion of the Lord Mayor, shows that the number of paupers receiving relief from the rates in the metropolitan district was 98,933 on the 1st of January, 1858, and 163,299 on the 1st of January, 1868, being an increase of 65 per cent., or three or four times as great as the increase of population. The outdoor poor increased 79 per cent.—viz., from 69,882 in 1858, to 125,126 in 1868. The expenditure for relief to the poor in the metropolis increased from £862,261 in the parochial year ending at Lady-day, 1858, to £1,316,759 in the parochial year ending at Lady-day, 1868, an increase of 52 per cent. The adult males relieved out of doors increased from 8,856 on the 1st of January, 1858, to no less than 18,679 on the 1st of January, 1868, the adult women receiving outdoor relief from 25,780 to 43,530; the children under 16 from 32,950 to 57,481.

The velocipede is becoming a great fact. A number of these vehicles are to be provided by the Government for carrying postmen and the mails in the remote rural districts not yet blessed with railways. The first of these novel mail coaches has been introduced at Stranraer, in Wigtonshire, Scotland. The use of the velocipede is becoming very common in London. In the course of a short walk may be seen a dozen bicycles carrying their riders at a spanking rate for an evening's ride. Some gentlemen living at Haverstock Hill come down every morning to the railway station on bicycles, chaining up their fiery, untamed steeds in the engine room until they return from business in the evening. The fashion is already so old that second-hand bicycles are quite common in the brokers' shops, and proves that the necks of the riders have either been broken, that they could not find out how to ride the animal, or that it cost too much to keep.

A GOOD ACTION.—A Brussels letter relates the following charitable action on the part of M. Gallait, a painter of that city:—A few months back a poor artist died, leaving his widow the solitary bequest of an unfinished picture, and even this was pledged for a sum of 1,000fr. The woman was anxious both to redeem the work and to find some one to finish it, and at last applied for advice to M. Gallait, who undertook to do the latter part of what she required if the painting was sent to his house. Here, however, a difficulty arose, for the man who had lent the money on deposit, a German, refused to give up the pledge without a condition that he should receive half the profit of the sale of the work when finished. An application was then made to the Association pour Secourir les Pauvres Artistes, who consented to advance the sum wanted; and M. Gallait, having received the painting, set to work and completed it in such excellent style that he was enabled to sell it for 4,000fr., which sum he immediately handed over to the widow, and refused all compensation for himself. Thus, the poor woman found herself, after having reimbursed the association, a gainer of 3,000fr.

THE valuable art of extempore manoeuvring has been for the first time experimented upon in this country. The exploit was accomplished on the return of the flying column from Aldershot to Wimbledon. Sir Alfred Horsford, the general in command, arranged to be met at some place between Chobham and Aldershot by a force which should seek to bar his route. Accordingly a sham fight took place along the range of the Fox Hills. Pickets were posted, and patrols and scouts sent out in search of the enemy. The Duke of Cambridge played a Jove-like part as umpire of the battle. Hills were occupied and contended for, the line of battle was extended in due form, and a field battery was brought into play. It was considered that Sir A. Horsford had "the best of it," and Sir James Scarlett the worst. But the value of such exercises lies in the exercise, and not in the triumph. The neighbourhood of Aldershot seems admirably adapted for such manoeuvres, and it is hoped they will be renewed and multiplied on system. The mimic strife was entered into with much excitement, and it is said to have had a great deal of the uncertainty of a real battle.

GREAT CAPTURE OF WHALES.—A correspondent writing from Stornoway says that on Saturday week an immense school of "calfing whales" was descried disporting themselves off the bay. Every one in the place was on the *qui vive* for their destruction, and a fleet of fifty boats, manned by about 140 men, put out from land, and getting to seaward of the shoal, drove them, after 12 hours' toil, into Stornoway harbour, till the whole press were safe in the bay, and were driven on shore like sheep. The scene which ensued was most exciting, as these unwieldy leviathans one after another succumbed. Every description of weapon had been brought in readiness, and 185 were soon harpooned and ready for flensing. The whole of them were sold by public auction, realizing £550, which is to be equally divided among the captors. The largest whale measured 20ft. in length, with a girth of 12ft., and fetched £12; the rest averaging about £3 each. The capture has caused great excitement and rejoicing in the town, for the sea seldom favours the fishermen with such a bountiful and easily-gathered harvest. The last capture was in 1859, when over 100 were taken in the bay; but about 25 years back, on one occasion, nearly 400 were captured in the same manner as on the present occasion. The presence of these monsters augurs well for the herring trade, for doubtless they had followed the herrings south, and it is hoped that the whales knew where the best feeding ground lay, and made for it accordingly.

THE SUTHERLANDSHIRE GOLD DIGGINGS.—A correspondent who has visited the gold diggings in Sutherlandshire writes:—"After spending a day in examining Dunrobin Castle I made my way to the now famous gold diggings at Kildonan. This month the number of licenses issued to diggers does not exceed 100, but the number of men actually at work is about 60 or 70, and these are nearly all entirely at Suigill. The majority of them seem to be old colonial diggers, and they are a jolly, affable set of men, willing to give information, and ready to allow visitors to try their luck at the shovel and cradle. It is impossible, however, to ascertain the exact yield of gold, owing to the obnoxious 10 per cent. royalty, which, it is said, encourages fraud, and sets a direct premium on falsehood. Some of the diggers, however, privately acknowledge daily earnings of £2. During my short stay I saw parcels of the gold weighing 6oz. 17dwts., 24oz. 17dwts., 6oz. 15dwts., and 6oz. 31wt. respectively, despatched to Messrs. Ferguson, Inverness, and representing an aggregate value of £53 10s. This fact speaks for itself; and on Saturday next, the last day of the month, it is expected that at least £100 worth of the precious dust will change hands."

ERFING FOREST.—On Monday a deputation waited upon the Chancellor of the Exchequer relative to alleged encroachments upon Erfing Forest, and urging the Government to take prompt measures to preserve the forest from such encroachments. The memorial which the deputation presented was from a public meeting of the inhabitants of Mile-end Old Town. It set forth that, in common with the other inhabitants of London and its suburbs, the memorialists had hitherto enjoyed the free use of the forest, for the purposes of health and recreation. They had seen with alarm the encroachments which had recently been made, and in particular they called attention to the case of Mr. Hodgson, lord of the manor of Chingford, who had enclosed about 300 acres, cutting down the timber, destroying the covert for the deer, and breaking up the land for cultivation. In the prayer they urged Her Majesty's Government to take steps to abate all encroachments, and so to exercise the Crown rights that future encroachments might be prevented, and they prayed also that the Government would concur in proper schemes for the management of the forest, under the Metropolitan Commons Act, 1866. The deputation was introduced by Mr. Samuda, M.P. There were also present Mr. A. Johnston, M.P., Mr. Reed, M.P., Mr. J. Holmes, M.P., Mr. G. Lushington (who spoke on behalf of the Commons Preservation Society), Mr. E. R. Cook (chairman of the meeting that adopted the memorial), and others.

VELOCIPEDE RIDING EXTRAORDINARY.—The *New York Tribune* of the 22nd of July says:—"Mr. A. P. Meisenger last night at eleven accomplished the extraordinary feat of riding 500 miles on a velocipede inside of 50 consecutive hours. Mr. Meisenger failed some months ago in the attempt to ride 100 miles in 10 consecutive hours. Since that time considerable has been said of his powers of endurance and his ability to ride a longer distance than 100 miles. Last week a purse of 250 dols. was made up. The conditions were simply that he should ride 500 miles in 50 consecutive hours. The Central Hall Velocipede School, in the Bowery, presenting the largest space for riding, was the place selected to ride in. He commenced at 8.50 on Monday night and made his first 10 miles in 39 minutes, second 10 in 38 minutes, third 10 in 40 minutes, fourth 10 in 39 minutes, and fifth 10 in 40 minutes—thus making the first 50 miles in 3 hours and 37 minutes, the best 50 miles on record. His first 100 miles were done in 7 hours and 20 minutes, the second 100 in 8 hours and 42 minutes, third 100 in 9 hours and 20 minutes, fourth 100 in 9 hours and 38 minutes, and fifth 100 in 8 hours and 42 seconds. His next last to the last five miles was made in the extraordinary time of 18 minutes and 2 seconds; his last five miles in 22 minutes and 6 seconds; last mile in 4 minutes and 18 seconds, coming in 12 minutes ahead of time. His actual running time for the 500 miles was 42 hours and 38 minutes, being an average of a little over four minutes to the mile. From the 480th to the 488th mile he averaged but 3 minutes and 22 seconds to the mile. He had to make 20 circuits of the room to each mile; therefore to accomplish the 500 miles he was obliged to make 10,000 circuits of the room and turn 40,000 corners. Meisenger immediately after the completion of the task weighed less by seven pounds than he did when he started."

FORCIBLE SEIZURE OF A DEAD BODY IN A HOSPITAL.—Mr. Bedford has held an inquest at the Westminster Hospital on the body of Francis Barry, aged 33, a labourer. It appeared that on Saturday morning last deceased was riding along Victoria-street, Westminster, on a builder's cart loaded with bricks, when, owing to a sudden jerk of the cart arising from a depression in the road, he was thrown out into the roadway head foremost, and the wheels of the cart passed over his body. He was picked up and taken in a cab to the Westminster Hospital, when it was found that he had sustained severe injury to the spine and laceration of the chest. He was quite sensible, but died in about three hours from the injuries and shock to the system. On his death becoming known to the friends of the deceased, belonging to the lower order of Irish, a large number of them assembled at the hospital, and in a very excited manner demanded the body in order that it might be "waked." This request was refused by the hospital authorities, who informed the people that the body could not be removed until after the inquest. The friends then went away, but returned again in

the evening in increased numbers, and insisted upon the body being given up to them or they would take it by force, at the same time forcing their way into the dead-house where the body lay. To prevent a disturbance in the hospital the body was allowed to be taken away, under a protest from the authorities, who informed the coroner what had taken place. The coroner, before calling on the jury to consider their verdict, ordered the brother of the deceased, who had taken an active part in the removal of the body, to be brought before him, he having been summoned as a witness to identify the body. On his attending the coroner informed him that he had laid himself open to punishment by his conduct in removing the body before the inquest without his permission. It was a most improper proceeding, and were it not that he attributed his conduct to ignorance of the law he certainly should have put the law in force. The brother expressed regret for what had taken place, and the jury returned a verdict of "Accidental death."

For some time fears had been entertained that the oyster-beds on the west coast of France would suffer from the intense heat prevalent throughout Europe, but the most despondent owners had not anticipated so complete a disaster as that which has overtaken them. It is now certain that the harvest of this year will be a total failure; in many cases the beds are entirely depopulated and their owners ruined. The damage to individuals is estimated at over 2,000,000 of francs, and the Government will also be a heavy loser. The effect on the Paris prices has been very marked, many restaurants charging from four to five francs a dozen. From Arcachon a very singular result of the heat is reported, which at one moment threatened to produce a regular pestilence. The muddy shore near that place is at low water the resort of innumerable eels, which bury themselves in the slime till the return of the tide. The excessive heat, by drying up the mud, had killed them in thousands, and the smell of their dead bodies, washed up and down by the tide, was beginning to spread fever in the neighbourhood. A large number of fishermen were therefore engaged to collect them in heaps on the beach, whence they were carted inland and buried. The total amount thus disposed of was over 400 carloads.

FRANCE AND THE FRENCH.—At last we know exactly what are the constitutional reforms which the Emperor Napoleon has given to France. The *Senatus-Consultum* published yesterday (according to the telegraphic summary) concedes the following points:—The initiative of making laws is to rest with the Emperor and the Legislative Body. The Ministers are to depend only upon the Emperor, will deliberate in Council under the Presidency of his Majesty, will be responsible, but may only be impeached by the Senate. They may be senators or deputies, and will have the right of being present at the sittings of either Assembly. The sittings of the Senate will be public. The Senate will make its own parliamentary regulations, may indicate any modification of which it may consider a law susceptible, and decide that such law be sent back for reconsideration by the Legislative Body, and may oppose the promulgation of the law by the adoption of a resolution to that effect, accompanied by a declaration of motives. The Legislative Body will make its own standing orders, and will appoint each session its president, vice-president, and secretaries. The Senate and Legislative Body will have the right of "interpellating" the Government and may adopt orders of the day with preamble. Such orders of the day must be referred to the bureaux if required by the Government. No amendment can be discussed until it has been referred to committee and communicated to the Government. If the Government accepts it the Legislative Body will then definitively pronounce upon it. The budget of expenditure will be voted by chapter. All modifications which may henceforth be made in the customs tariffs in international treaties will only become obligatory on receiving the sanction of law. An Imperial decree will be issued settling the relations between the Senate and Legislative Body, between the Council of State and the Emperor, and between the members of the Council of State.

RECOLLECTIONS OF WALES.—On Thursday, last week, a public park was opened at Aberdare, in South Wales. In the course of a speech by Mr. Fothergill, M.P., who announced the completion of the improvement to the locality, he said:—"Thirty years ago Aberdare was a quiet and secluded place; it was picturesque and known for its beauty, so that tourists were in the habit of saying, 'What a pretty little place it is!' In those days we had no railways. We had no public conveyances. We were indeed a most unsophisticated class of beings. I was amused at what an eminent London merchant once told me. He asked if we carried on business at Aberdare as in the old days, and if we met our bills in the old fashion? I replied at once, 'They always meet their bills now as they used to do.' He said they had a curious way of meeting their bills, and referred to a highly respectable tradesman named Griffiths—I dare say some of you know him—who used to give a bill for the goods he bought, but he never met the bill through his bankers; he used to send bank notes before the bill was due. He requested that he would 'devour his bill.' When my memory goes back, I cannot help being amused to think what importance the mere circumstance of dress assumed at that time. No man in those days would think of appearing in turn-down collars, or a short jacket, or a billycock hat. We always wore tall hats, and dress coats, and cambric neckties; and as for a moustache, that was downright profanation. I remember appearing in a moustache, and almost immediately afterwards there was a panic in the money market. I thought that was ominous, and took it off at once. These are the sort of recollections of what things used to be. That river was then a pellucid stream, and I remember my friend Mr. Jones going there with the certainty of catching fish. I don't think he would be able to catch any fish there now. When I was a young man in Aberdare, I used to think that there were not such pretty girls in all creation, and I remain of the same opinion."

A CASE of very praiseworthy promptitude and determination on the part of a man named Kent, a member of the Irish Constabulary, in saving three persons from drowning, has, within the last few days, been the subject of investigation by the Royal Humane Society, which has just awarded him its bronze medal. The circumstances of the case are as follows:—Constable Kent, with Sub-Constables Tatty, Moloney, and Kearney, went to bathe in the river near their barracks at Suir Castle, near Golden, Tipperary. Tatty, who was not able to swim, got into deep water and was sinking fast, when his perilous position was noticed by Moloney, who was near him, and who at once went to his assistance. However, from the way in which he was seized by the drowning man his exertions were of no avail, and it is probable that both would have been drowned, had not Kent gone to their rescue. This he did immediately he perceived them in danger, and after a desperate struggle, which lasted about ten minutes, got them safely to the bank. Kearney, however, perceiving the distress in which his three companions were, in hastening to their assistance was carried into deep water and sank, and while Kent was engaged in helping Tatty and Moloney, his attention was called by a bystander to the perilous position of Kearney. As soon as Kent had succeeded in rescuing the other men he went to where Kearney was, and found that he had sunk and was lying insensible at the bottom of the river, which at the place is about ten feet deep. Kent, though by this time much exhausted by his previous exertions, without the least hesitation went again into the river, and, diving, succeeded in raising Kearney, whom he pushed forward to a person standing on the bank, who, however, did not succeed in catching him, and the poor fellow again sank to the bottom. Kent then dived a second time, and again raised him to the top of the water keeping him in that position until he was dragged to the bank. For some time he remained insensible, but eventually recovered.

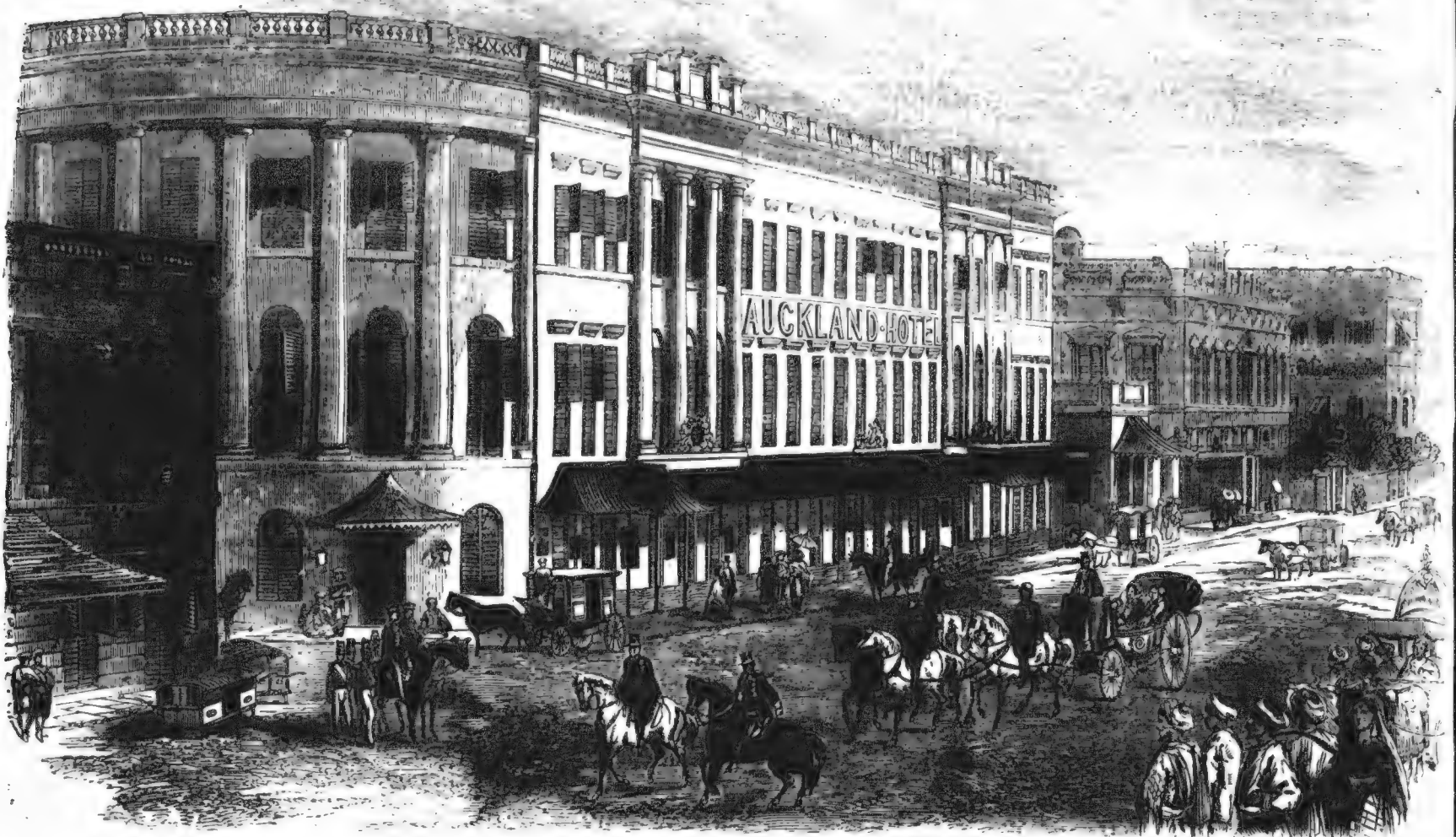
A HARVEST FESTIVAL IN LOWER NORMANDY.

THROUGHOUT the whole of the southern and we may almost say the midland counties of England, harvesting has commenced most favourably. On the continent the crops are in even a more forward state. In the purely rural districts of France, old customs, spite of the many revolutions that have somewhat changed the face of things, still prevail, and one of the more curious of these is a Harvest Festival, which is celebrated in Normandy when the corn of the harvest has been all thrashed with the exception of a single sheaf. This sheaf, it seems, is decorated with ribbons and flowers, and placed in a corner of the barn firmly secured to a stake by hidden cords. The farm labourers then walk over to the residence of the landlord; but should they not find him at home, they proceed at once to the farm-house, and beg the assistance of the farmer and his wife to aid them in lifting a sheaf, which, with their united efforts, they say they have been unable to move. The farmer and his wife accompany them to the barn, and after some little exertion manage to break the cords by which the sheaf is secured. A procession is now formed, headed by two men with brooms, who delight in raising a cloud of dust under pretext that they are simply making a clean path. Then follow the farmer and his wife carrying the sheaf, preceded, however, by their children, who hold in their hands a few ears of corn. If any strangers happen to be present, the young damsels hand them bouquets of wild flowers, and some pretty girl is generally carried in triumph round the thrashing-floor, which is fixed in the open field. The most skilful winnower occupies the next place in the procession, and as he advances with his fan filled with

tionary, ice, biscuit, and pastry department; then the preserved provisions, oilman's stores, and general supply department for messes and families. This disposes of the edibles, drinkables, &c.; but there is also the millinery, dressmaking and general trimming department; and a department for the sale of paletots, hosiery, drapery, and ready-made clothing of every description for ladies and gentlemen.

Besides all these, there is the wholesale export and general shipping department; the army and general agency; correspondence and financial department; the printing, bookbinding, and counting-house department; and the Calcutta Jerusalem Subscription Assembly Reading Rooms for merchants, brokers, and captains of ships. There are also inferior departments, such as that of carpentry, coopering, provision salting (the produce of two farms in the suburbs, belonging to the proprietors of the hotel) packing and packing-case manufactory, &c. All these several departments are on the ground floor of the building, where is situated the grand marble hall, or "Hall of Nations," as it is termed; a magnificent apartment, 220ft. in length by 120ft. in breadth, and in which are displayed numerous objects of ornament and utility, the productions of every civilized nation. The whole of the upper storeys is appropriated to the purposes of an hotel for families and gentlemen. There is a table d'hôte, where 200 may conveniently dine; a billiard-room for the exclusive use of the inmates; in a word, the entire arrangements are excellent and complete, and in every way worthy of our Eastern capital. No wonder, then, that the "Auckland," originally established twenty-four years ago, has uniformly enjoyed the patronage of governors-general, commanders-in-chief, and regimental messes. The building stand

consisted of hemp. The men were at once hauled on deck, and restoratives applied. In the meantime search was made for the exact locality of the fire, and it was soon found to have originated in the afterpart of the main hold. With a view of smothering out the flames Captain Rutter had everything battened tight down except a small aperture, through which the ship's hose was brought to play on the fire. The fire, however, had got too great hold to be easily subdued, and in a few minutes after the hatches were battened down the tarpaulin began to melt, and directly afterwards a portion of the deck blew up. At 5 o'clock in the afternoon it was seen that all efforts to subdue the fire were likely to prove futile, for the flames continued to extend. Captain Rutter, therefore got the boats out to prevent their being burnt, and shortly afterwards he sent the passengers away in a brig (the *Thetis*, bound for Seaham) which, at Captain Rutter's request, was standing by. Even after the passengers had left the crew used their utmost endeavours to subdue the flames, but without avail, and the masts having gone by the board, and the decks all being consumed, the crew were sent away about half-past 10 o'clock at night, taking with them as much of the passengers' luggage as could be got into the boats, as well as the ship's papers, log-book, and plate. Early next morning the steamer *Dantsic*, Captain Winchester, hove in sight, and at the request of Captain Rutter, staid by, and took the passengers from the brig. Captain Rutter also consulted with Captain Winchester as to the probabilities of saving the wreck of the vessel, but that gentleman saw no chance, and reluctantly Captain Rutter left his vessel, one of the most magnificent of the Hull fleet. She was 1,200 tons burden and was launched only about two months ago at Stockton.



THE AUCKLAND HOTEL, CALCUTTA.

corn, he agitates it, and causes the husks to whisk through the air. Last of all come the stalwart thrashers, who follow in a body, and with their flails beat the ground, keeping time with their songs. The whole of the procession having gone round the thrashing floor, the sheaf is thrown down, its bands broken, and a few shots fired, and thus ends the ceremony. A loaf of bread is now brought forth and a huge roll of butter, together with sundry bottles of wine. Every one present is invited to eat and drink, and as soon as the bread and wine are demolished, the remaining sheaf is thrashed amid the joyful acclamations of the lookers-on.

THE AUCKLAND HOTEL, CALCUTTA.

OUR readers are now pretty well familiar with the style of the spacious new hotels, which, under the Limited Liability Act, have of late years been springing up in the metropolis and the principal towns in England. Yet in our distant colonies they are not behind us in their hotel buildings. We give above an engraving of the Auckland Hotel, Calcutta.

This princely establishment was rebuilt at a cost of £40,000, and forms a noble addition to the street architecture of the capital of British India. Unlike the New York and Paris hotels, this establishment has peculiar features of its own which claim especial attention. If we step under its spacious roof we find that some twenty distinct trades and professions, are there represented. First we have the "Restaurant de Paris," elegant in all its appointments, with its innumerable small tables and various private saloons, at which hundreds at one time may be accommodated. Then there is the tea, grocery, foreign fruit, and China produce department; next, the wine, beer, and spirit department; the cooking, confec-

nary, ice, biscuit, and pastry department; then the preserved provisions, oilman's stores, and general supply department for messes and families. It occupies about three acres of ground, and forms one extensive block, bounded by three of the principal streets. Its entire front and sides present a facade of about 700 feet. Five resident partners manage the whole of this extensive concern, while the senior is located in London, attending to the multifarious requirements of this establishment, which gives employment, on the premises, to 350 people.

When the community of Calcutta was in a high state of excitement, consequent upon the mutiny of the sepoys at Barrackpore, the Auckland was thronged with refugees, numbering from 200 to 300, chiefly ladies. Fifty men-of-war's men were specially appointed for the protection of the establishment, and were under arms day and night guarding the premises.

BURNT AT SEA.

ON Thursday morning last week, Captain J. Rutter, the crew, and eight passengers of the screw steamer *Marsden* arrived at Hull, their vessel having been burnt in the North Sea on Monday. Captain Rutter states that the *Marsden*, which was on her first voyage, from Cronstadt to Dunkirk, was about 200 miles from the last-named port, when on Tuesday morning, about 10 o'clock, smoke was seen issuing from the chain boxes forward. The vessel had up to that time made good running, and it was hoped that by the next morning she would be in Dunkirk, but fire must have been smouldering in her hold for many days. As soon as the smoke was seen forward Captain Rutter went down into the fore-castle, and he there found three men, whose watch it was below, lying in their beds in a state of insensibility from the effects of the dense smoke arising from the cargo, which for the most part

On arrival at Hull the passengers wrote a letter to the owners, expressing their high admiration of the coolness and bravery of Captain Rutter, under the most trying circumstances.

THE ALPS AND THEIR INHABITANTS.

THE Alps, with the exception of Caucasus, constitute the highest and most extensive mountain system of Europe. They extend from the banks of the Rhone, in France, on the west, to the rivers Verbas and Narenta, on the east, forming a vast semicircular bulwark, which encompasses, on the north, Italy and the Adriatic Sea. Vegetation covers the greater part of the Alps. The larger valleys, none of which rise to 5,000 feet above the sea, contain some tracts fit for agricultural purposes. They consist generally of uneven ground, extending on both sides of a river. Behind it the mountains rise with a steep and commonly inaccessible ascent, which is covered with high trees; in the lower parts with oak, beech, elm, &c., and the upper region with fir, pine, larch, and the *Pinus Cembra*. Near the region of the pastures the trees dwindle down to low bushes. The pasture region, which occupies the next place, offers commonly a plain strongly inclined to the valley, and is in general of considerable width. It is called in Switzerland the Alps. Here are found the huts or *sermes* of the herdsmen, as shown in our illustration on page 1349, inhabited only in summer, when the cattle are brought to these pastures.

VELOCEPEDER.—We were invited by Messrs. Whight and Mann of 143, Holborn Hill, to inspect their new two-wheel *Velocipedes*, and after making a very careful inspection of the admirable workmanship, strength, &c., &c., decidedly pronounced them to be far superior to any we have yet seen either of British or American Manufacture.

HORRIBLE DEATH OF A CLERGYMAN ON THE ALPS.

THE Rev. Julius M. Elliott, of Brighton, was killed last Tuesday week by a fall from the Schreckhorn, of which we give a sketch. Mr. Elliott was travelling with the Rev. P. W. Phipps, and they were accompanied by Franz Biner, of Zermatt, Mr. Elliott's guide for the last four years, and by Joseph Lauber, of Zermatt, as porter. On the Monday afternoon they left Grindelwald to sleep at the cave under Kastenstein, taking with them Peter Baumann, of Grindelwald, as an additional porter. Their intention was to separate on Tuesday morning, Mr. Elliott to ascend the Schreckhorn with Biner and Lauber, Mr. Phipps to go over the Strahleck and back with Baumann. However, Tuesday morning proved so fine that Mr. Elliott advised his friend to change his plans and accompany him up the Schreckhorn. This Mr. Phipps agreed to do on the stipulation that Mr. Elliott should still go as he had originally proposed, allowing Mr. Phipps to follow independently with Peter Baumann, so that he might be no hindrance to Mr. Elliott's well-known rapid climbing. The first half of the ascent was effected with comparative ease, the weather being perfect and the snow in first-rate condition. As the rock became more difficult, Baumann and Mr. Phipps put on their ropes. Mr. Elliott, however, declined to put on his, as he thought it unnecessary. He ascended very rapidly, and went on some distance in advance with his two guides. They were about half way up the final peak, were just leaving the snow, and were cutting the last steps to reach the rocks of the summit, when in springing from the snow on to the rocks Mr. Elliott slipped and fell. Lauber was on the rocks, but not firmly placed, and could render no assistance. Biner caught him by the arm for the instant, but failed to hold

morning the Rev. F. Reade received a letter which, *inter alia*, stated that on the previous Monday the two reverend gentlemen had made a sort of trial ascent of one of the mountains in the immediate neighbourhood of Grindelwald, which place was their head-quarters, and that they had been very successful in their ascent, and were about to make another. The next news received by the Rev. Frederick Reade was contained in a telegram, dated 6 p.m. on Tuesday, which was delivered at his house, 41, Brunswick-terrace, at 9.30 p.m. the same afternoon, and which conveyed the melancholy announcement in brief terms, that in the course of making the second ascent the Rev. Julius Elliott had prematurely lost his life. That telegram has since been supplemented by a letter from the Rev. Mr. Phipps to the Rev. F. Reade, posted in Switzerland to leave at noon on Wednesday, and which was delivered here about the same hour yesterday. The details of the circumstances attending this in many senses deplorable event is still, however, somewhat meagre. As soon as possible after the receipt of the telegram a cousin of the deceased started for Switzerland, to make all necessary arrangements for the disposal of the body when recovered."

The body was found on the Lauter-aar glacier on the 28th of July by the party of guides sent to search for it, and brought back to Grindelwald on the next day by the Grimsel and Strahleck. The deceased gentleman was only 28 years of age.

SINGULAR AND ALARMING RAILWAY ACCIDENT.

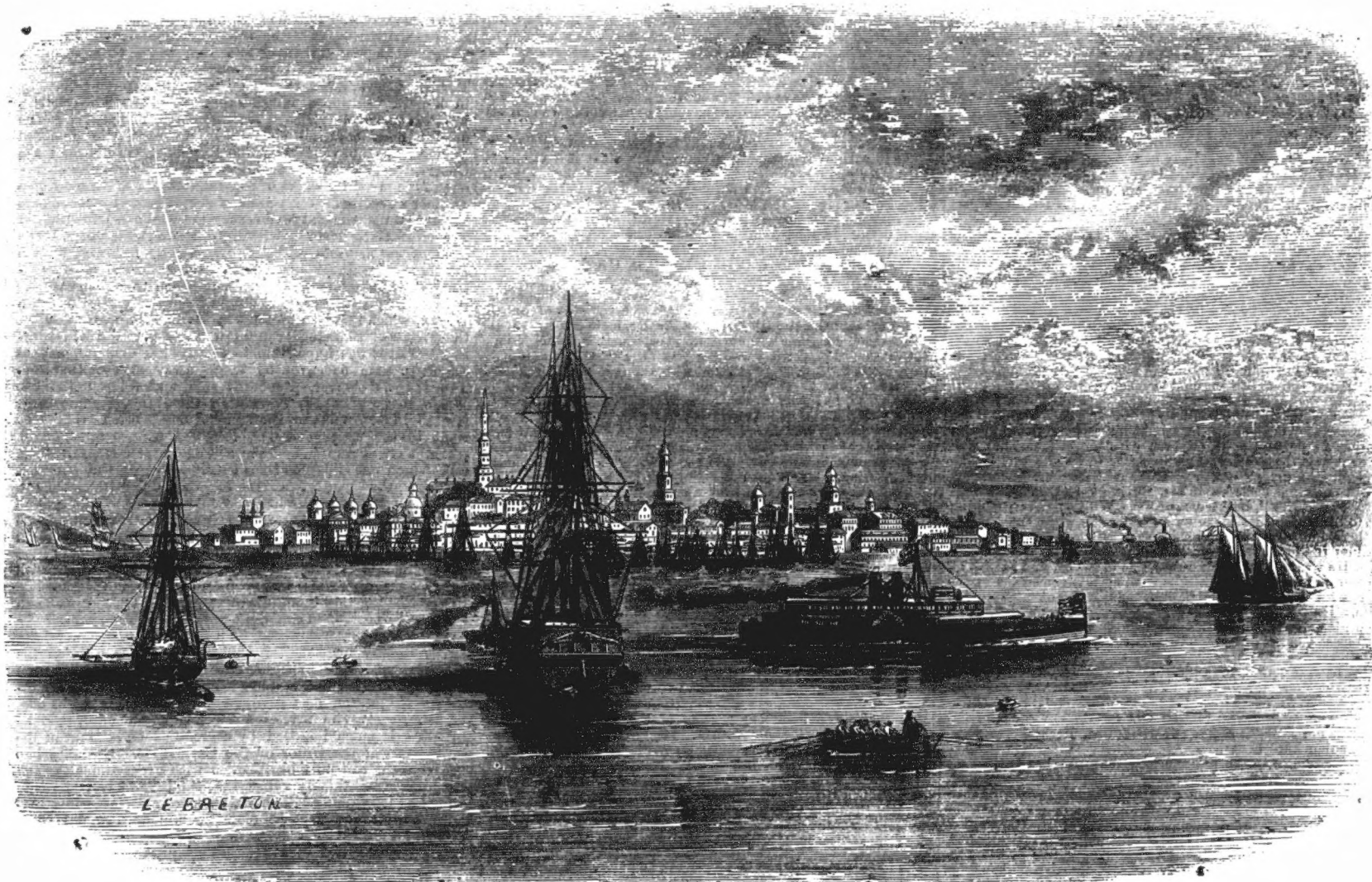
A very strange and alarming railway accident occurred on Thursday last week at Preston. A train consisting entirely of waggons filled with stone is run down to Preston from the Longridge quarries every day; and the whole of the

her escape the train, which was still running at eight or ten miles an hour, came into violent collision with the house, and broke in a large portion of the front. A van, weighing between nine and ten tons, at the front of the train, was driven completely through the parlour windows. It pushed in the surrounding masonry, and was driven through the wall about half its length, sitting tightly in on every side—before it was stopped.

GRAND REVIEW AND FAREWELL BANQUET TO PRINCE ARTHUR.

A grand review and farewell banquet took place at Woolwich on Saturday evening, on the occasion of his Royal Highness Prince Arthur leaving the garrison for the purpose of proceeding to Canada.

The troops assembled on Woolwich-common at a quarter to five, in review order, in command of Major-General Sir David Wood, K.C.B., commandant of the garrison. At five o'clock the Greenhill battery boomed forth a royal salute, announcing the arrival of his Royal Highness the Field-Marshal Commanding-in-Chief and staff. The duke rode up to the enclosure and inspected the troops, who afterwards marched past to airs played by the band of the Royal Artillery and 94th Regiment, who were massed in front of the flagstaff or saluting point, in the rear of which was an enclosure containing a select number of visitors in carriages and on foot. The mounted troops galloped past in open column of squadrons in a very imposing manner. His Royal Highness Lieutenant Prince Arthur took part with the troops, and went past with his battery several times. The field-day commenced with the duke and the commanding officers of the



VIEW OF CHARLESTOWN, SOUTH AMERICA—(SEE PAGE 1347.)

him, and being unroped Mr. Elliott glided rapidly down the steep snow slopes of the north-east face of the mountain, rolling occasionally over until he disappeared from their sight some 1,000 feet below, near the Lauter-aar glacier. The guides said that the only way by which the spot could be reached was by returning to Grindelwald, and sending men thence up to the Dauter-aar glacier by the upper Grindelwald glacier. One effort was made by joining the two ropes together, and letting Baumann down as far as they could reach, in the hope of his being able to see anything, but he could not see only the furrow marked in the snow by the fall, and though he shouted repeatedly no answer came. They then returned to Grindelwald as rapidly as they could, but the descent was rendered difficult by the then insecure state of the snow, and by the rocks, and they did not reach it until five o'clock in the afternoon. Mr. Phipps immediately applied to Herr Bohren, of the Hotel de l'Aigle, who sent off directly six guides, under the direction of Peter Michel, to use their utmost efforts to discover the body of Mr. Elliott. They took with them provisions for three days, and everything that could be suggested as of use. Early the next morning four more guides were sent, Biner and Baumann being of their number. Mr. Phipps considered that the guides are in no way to blame for the sad accident. The *Brighton Daily News* of Saturday says:—"The greatest sympathetic interest continues to be manifested for the bereaved family of the Rev. Julius Elliott, incumbent of St. Mary's, whose premature death in Switzerland is announced. It seems that the unfortunate gentleman was on his holiday tour, in company with the Rev. Mr. Phipps, curate of the Church of St. John the Baptist, Hove, of which church the Rev. Frederick Reade is rector. Last Wednesday

line, about seven miles in length, being on a strong down gradient, no engine is attached to them, the waggons coming along in charge of brakemen by their own momentum. On Thursday morning a stone train, consisting of 25 waggons and one van, was despatched from Longridge. It was in charge of two brakemen—Henry Helm and William Wearden—who have for some time been used to the road. Everything went on right until the train had got within a short distance of Preston, when the brakemen found that they could not check the waggons properly—the brakes having been either applied too late or the train being too strong for them. The destination of the train was a large "yard" at the side of the old station, behind Stephenson-terrace, Preston; and after the two men in charge of it had screwed down their brakes to the utmost point, and put on some belonging to the waggons, without any chance of stopping the train, they jumped off. Stones were put upon the line by the brakemen who ran alongside the train, and by others who noticed its velocity, in the hope of either arresting the progress of the waggons or throwing them off the line; but the waggons, owing to their weight, crushed the stones and ran forward, at a speed equal to about 10 miles an hour, into the "yard" named. The line on which they were proceeding runs within about eight yards of the front of the house occupied by the brakeman Helm. His wife, who was looking out of the parlour window, saw the train approaching more rapidly than usual, and apprehended that it would break over the buttress in front of the house used for blocking waggons, and run right into the dwelling; so she at once seized her two children, ran into the back yard, lifted one of them over the wall, and then got over it herself with the other child. A moment or two after she had effected

garrison proceeding with the troops and taking up a strong position on Shooter's-hill to repel the attack of a force supposed to be advancing up the common. Hostilities commenced by the Royal Artillery advancing and opening a heavy fire on the enemy, covered by skirmishers, who also kept up a well-sustained fire until forced to retire. Line firing then commenced, the fusillade being well kept up, the advancing in echelon being in splendid order. After beating the enemy the troops formed on their original alignment for a general salute, the Duke of Cambridge calling the officers out, and expressing the pleasure it had afforded him to witness the steady and soldierlike manner in which the details of the review had been carried out. The review lasted from five to seven o'clock.

The Commander-in-Chief then proceeded to the Repository and witnessed the manning of the heavy guns posted behind earthworks. The duke then rode down to No. 1 Staff-officers' quarters, and spent half an hour in conversation with Prince Arthur in his apartments.

At eight o'clock his Royal Highness Prince Arthur was entertained at a farewell banquet in the Royal Artillery mess room, which was handsomely decorated and hung round with paintings. There was a splendid display of costly plate on the tables, the centre-piece being valued at £8,000. On the front table were placed several pieces of plate given as presents by Prince Arthur on the occasion of his leaving the garrison, including a *recherche* gold cup presented to the mess, a gold cup to Colonel Turner (the prince's colonel), and a handsome piece of plate presented to Lieutenant-Colonel Field, second commandant of the Royal Military Academy, all bearing appropriate inscriptions.

LAW AND POLICE.

THE BETTING-HOUSE PROSECUTIONS have again come before Sir Thomas Henry. Counsel on both sides having agreed upon the details of case for the decision of a superior court, the magistrate imposed the penalty named in the Act of Parliament, viz. £100.

A MAN named James Chapman, a plumber, of Hornsey, and late manager of the alum and ammonia works at Bow, who had petitioned the Court of Bankruptcy in *forma pauperis*, and made the usual oath of his inability to pay the court fees, had his petition dismissed by Mr. Commissioner Holroyd, it being proved that he had money in his possession at the time, and had very recently held eight shares of £50 each in the "Richard Green" Building Society. The bankrupt has been in custody two months, and will remain there.

BETTING PROSECUTIONS—At the Birmingham police-court five betting agents and their assistants were summoned on the information of a private informer for contravention of the Betting Act. William Cooby, the landlord of the Golden Elephant, pleaded guilty to two charges of keeping a house for purposes contrary to the Act, and was fined £20 and costs, or in default six months' imprisonment. James Francis, landlord of the State Cabin, Dale-end, was fined £10 and costs. The assistants brought up were fined 1s. each.

ACTION FOR LIBEL AGAINST A BISHOP—An action for libel has been commenced by Mr. A. N. Laughton, a barrister, of Douglas, Isle of Man, against the Bishop of the diocese. It appears that some months since there was a dispute between the Bishop and the Rev. W. Bradden as to the right of presentation, and the Bishop caused a bill to be introduced into the Manx Legislature, which was opposed by Mr. Laughton, who spoke strongly of the Bishop. His lordship, in a charge just delivered, spoke of Mr. Laughton's "slandrous statements," "unchristianlike imputations," and "calumnious assertions," adding that Mr. Laughton had "borne false witness against his neighbour." Hence the action. The damages are laid at £1,000.

THE DUKE OF NEWCASTLE'S CASE—The litigation in the case of the Duke of Newcastle is drawing to a close. The interpleader suit of *Gladstone and Lord De Lyby v. Padwick* as to property at Clumber seized under a bill of sale, has been turned into a special case, and will be decided at Westminster after the long vacation. The application for an adjudication in bankruptcy is still pending. On Tuesday last week the various solicitors in the several actions, *Padwick v. The Duke of Newcastle*, *Peters v. The Duke of Newcastle*, and *Beyfus v. The Duke of Newcastle*, attended before Mr. Baron Martin at Chambers, when Mr. Tidy applied for an order on the Sheriff of Middlesex, as well as the Sheriff of Nottinghamshire, to pay over the proceeds of the sales under Mr. Padwick's execution. It was said the sheriffs should be protected against a bankruptcy. His lordship, however, made an order on the sheriffs, and the money will be forthwith paid over.

SINGULAR PROSECUTION FOR CRUELTY—Mr. Guise, the Chatham stipendiary magistrate, has heard a summons which had been taken out by order of the Chatham Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals against James Russell for cruelty to three fowls, by carrying them with their heads downwards. The case, from its being the first of the kind, created much interest. Evidence was given that the defendant was carrying the three fowls through the street by their feet with their heads downwards, and that on being remonstrated with he denied that he was causing any pain to the birds, and refused to carry them in any other way. Mr. Guise said there could be no doubt that carrying fowls in the way described caused them great and unnecessary pain. As, however, the practice was a very common one, and it was the first prosecution of the kind, he should inflict only the mitigated penalty of 2s. 6d. and costs, or seven days' imprisonment. The defendant paid the penalty.

A NICE POLICEMAN—A gross case of misbehaviour on the part of a policeman has come before Mr. Elliott at the Lambeth police-court. Mr. Rowell, bookseller, of King William-street, Strand, went to the Crystal Palace to see the fireworks when the Viceroy was there, and to get a better view stood on a chair which he had placed on the top of a table in one of the third-class refreshment rooms. He was told by a police constable to get off, and did get off the chair on to the table, when he was immediately struck by the officer with both hands, and thrown down among a number of people. He went up to the policeman to take his number, when he put his helmet into Mr. Rowell's face, making the remark, "I suppose you are some hairdresser or cobbler out for a holiday." Mr. Rowell and other persons had no difficulty in identifying George Lawrence, No. 15 of the P. Reserve, as the offender, but he yesterday denied the charge. The magistrate said the only question was as to the constable's identity. That some officer had grossly misbehaved himself was certain, and the Commissioners of Police ought to find out who it was. For the present he should adjourn the case.

DOG STEALING—The great dog-stealing case has again come before the magistrate at Clerkenwell. Isaac Hayden, aged fifty, described as a respectably dressed man, residing at 23, Chapel-street, Pentonville, was charged with stealing a dog, value £5, the property of Mr. Harry Crouch, a comedian, of 67, Devonshire-road, Holloway. The facts of the case have already appeared. About a month since the prosecutor lost his dog, and offered a reward of £5 for its recovery. From what came to his knowledge anonymously the prosecutor communicated with police-sergeant George Parry, 14 Y, and they both met the prisoner by appointment at Islington. He afterwards took them to a house and produced the stolen dog. On Sergeant Parry searching the house he found several valuable dogs, which he had no doubt were stolen. Sergeant Parry now asked for a further reward, and remarked that on the next occasion he should be able to produce other owners for dogs found on the prisoner's premises. Among the valuable dogs found and not owned, and which can be seen at the police-station at Highgate, are a blue-coloured Isle of Skye terrier, a black and tan Scotch terrier, a black and white bitch, King Charles's breed, &c. The magistrate remanded the prisoner, but accepted bail, two sureties in the sum of £50 each, and the prisoner himself in £100.

A PAIRISH PROSECUTION—At the Middlesex Sessions on Sunday John Ryan, aged sixty-two, a labourer, was charged with obtaining by false pretences 22s. and 257 lbs. of bread from Mr. Henry Edmonds, relieving officer at Kensington Workhouse. Mr. Edmonds said that on the 13th of December the prisoner applied for relief for himself, his wife, and four children. He said that his eldest child was named James, aged ten and a half, and that his other children were Catherine, aged eight; Ellen, nine; and William, aged six. He was cautioned that if his children were over sixteen he was not entitled to relief for them. A single man would only get 6d. a day and 1 lb. of bread. A married man was only entitled to 8d. a day and 2 lbs. of bread. By making the statement that his children were under sixteen and dependent upon him, he obtained £1 2s. in money and 257 lbs. of bread, worth £1 13s., more than he was entitled to. The fact was that his youngest child was over sixteen. Prisoner: I never had relief. I broke nine biscuits of stones every day, and for that he paid me 10d. I was at work twenty-six weeks. The Assistant-Judge: The point is not that you did not do the work, but that you obtained extra pay by an untruth. Prisoner: If 10d. a day is too much for a man, it is a wonder. The Assistant-Judge: That is the law. I am not saying that it is right, but that is the law. Prisoner (to the following officer): You are the man who are taking the parish money, and not the man who is getting 10d. a day

for his work. Evidence having been given that the children of the prisoner were over sixteen years, he said, "What have my children to do with the breaking of stones? I am the man that has got to do that. I do not know the age of my children. I never booked their ages. He gave me 10d. If he gave me too much, I never knew the rule." The jury returned a verdict of guilty, with a recommendation to mercy. The sentence was nine months' hard labour.

THE GREAT ABDUCTION CASE—The Jewish abduction case has terminated. In summing up Mr. Baron Channell told the jury that it was not enough on the part of the plaintiff to prove that the defendants, knowing the whereabouts of Esther Lyons, concealed their knowledge of the fact from the father, nor was it enough to show that they remained ignorant, wilfully ignorant, for purposes of their own, of her place of residence. There had been a great deal in the conduct of the defendants which they might not approve, but the question the jury had to try was whether, in the excess of their zeal, they had overstepped the pale of the law. They must be satisfied that the defendants had done one of two acts—either that they had enticed the girl away from her father's house or that they harboured her, knowing that she was her father's servant at the time they harboured her. He was of opinion it was sufficiently clear that Esther was her father's "servant" in a legal view. In order to sustain the second count, the jury must be satisfied that the defendants harboured the girl at a time when they knew she was the servant of the plaintiff. The girl being of a certain age, she was quite qualified to express her determination to leave her father's service, and if she did so the father had no right to detain her. Supposing it was even proved that the girl had been enticed away, yet, if she expressed any determination not to return home, then the second count could not be maintained. His lordship, in conclusion, said that if the jury were of opinion that the plaintiff was entitled to a verdict, then would come the question of damages, and on that point he was in great doubt, for there had been no previous case like it. His opinion, however, was that the plaintiff would only be entitled to damages for the loss of services sustained, and not for solatium damages, as to the case of seduction. The jury retired, and were absent from the court four hours, when they returned the following verdict:—"We find that Esther Lyons was enticed away from her father's home by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas, and we award the plaintiff £50 damages." His lordship said that was a verdict for the plaintiff on the first count only. A verdict was entered in favour of the defendants Mr. and Mrs. Holley, and Mrs. Keep, the action having been withdrawn against Dr. Schwarz at the commencement of the case. The judge without hesitation granted leave to the defendants to move the court to enter the verdict for them.

THE CHARGE OF PERJURY AGAINST MR. GRENVILLE MURRAY—The hearing of the adjourned summons against Mr. Grenville Murray for perjury, alleged to have been committed on the 7th ult., during the hearing of the case against Lord Carington, for using words to incite Mr. Murray to fight a duel, was resumed on Thursday morning last week, at the Marlborough-street Police-court, before Mr. Knox. Among the visitors accommodated with a seat on the bench were the Duke of Sutherland, Lord Barrington, Lord George Lennox, Colonel Marshall, Colonel Sturt, Mr. Christie, &c. On the case being called on for hearing, Mr. Gill rose and said that the defendant was not present. It became necessary, after the last examination, and in consequence of certain statements made by Mr. Hughes, that Mr. Reginald Murray should be examined, and in order to procure his attendance Mr. Grenville Murray started on Sunday evening last for Paris. Mr. Reginald Murray was unfortunately afflicted with a disease which rendered it necessary that he should be put under a certain amount of restraint and, in accordance with the practice of French law, the person who put him under restraint must fetch him away. Mr. Grenville Murray had accordingly proceeded to Paris for that purpose, and as he had been, owing to illness, unable to return in time for this examination he (Mr. Gill) had to apply for a postponement of the hearing. Mr. Knox: Certainly not; it is altogether out of the question. I shall instantly sign a warrant for the apprehension of Mr. Grenville Murray. Mr. Gill: But when a gentleman is absent owing to accident. Mr. Knox: On no, there is no accident possible. Mr. Murray knew the law, and ought to have been present. Mr. Gill: But, sir, I have here the certificates of two medical gentlemen, who testify that it is impossible for him to be present, and when I say that he will be present on the next occasion. Mr. Knox: My duty is clear. Mr. Grenville Murray ought to have been present here to-day, and he is fully aware of the fact. Mr. Gill: But when a gentleman who was ill before he went away is attacked with dysentery, and sends two doctors' certificates to certify that he is unable to be present, I think I am entitled to ask for an adjournment. Mr. Knox: I shall at once order the recognisances to be forfeited, the sureties to be forfeited, and the forfeiture of the recognisances will be returned to the sessions. Mr. Gill: Will you adjourn the hearing of the case? Mr. Knox: Certainly not—most distinctly not. (To the usher of the court): Call Mr. Grenville Murray. Mr. Grenville Murray was accordingly called in due form, and the usher announced that there was no answer. Mr. Knox: As soon as Mr. Grenville Murray sets his foot upon British soil he will be arrested under my warrant. Mr. Gill (handing up a telegram, which he said had been received, explanatory of the absence of the defendant, and promising to attend on the next occasion if possible): Will you, sir, take a note that I present this document as a testimony of what I assert. Mr. Knox: Certainly; if it will be of any service to you at any future time I shall be quite ready to depose to that fact. I shall at once sign a warrant for the apprehension of the defendant. Mr. Trisler, who appeared for Lord Carington: That appears to me the only thing you can do to-day, sir. The proceedings then terminated.

EXTRAORDINARY SCENE AT THE MIDDLESEX SESSIONS—At the Middlesex Sessions on Monday Mr. Brierly, the barrister, who had taken his seat near the bench, rose and said: My lord, will you permit me to make a complaint of one of the officers of this court? Mr. Sergeant Cox (who presided): What is your motion? Mr. Brierly: My lord, I demand an audience. Mr. Cox: What is your motion? Mr. Brierly (raising his voice and staring wildly at the judge): Your lordship is aware that I have been robbed of my stones. A policeman took them. The judge: I cannot interfere. Mr. Brierly: You can. You have the jurisdiction. Mr. Cox: I cannot have the business of the court interrupted. If you do not desist, I shall have to adopt another course. Mr. Brierly: You dare not. I dare any of you. Recollect what happened to the Lord Chief Justice of England. He was impeached before the House of Lords. You tell me that you have no jurisdiction in your own court; that a policeman in your court you have no power over. Mr. Cox: It is for a magistrate. Mr. Brierly: Order me back my property. I have been robbed of my property. The policeman has got my stones. Mr. Cox: I shall order you into custody. Mr. Brierly: You dare not. No one dare. Mr. Cox: Remove him, and take him into custody. Mr. Brierly (shouting at the pitch of his voice): None dare; none dare. No one dare. The scene in the court now became a most exciting one. Mr. Horall, the beadle of the court, went towards where Mr. Brierly was seated and caught hold of him, and he resisted violently. Three other officers then approached; they seized Mr. Brierly and lifted him off his feet. He shrieked and shouted, "Are you all cowards? This is Judge Jeffreys again. Where is Coward Ribton? Will no one prevent this outrage?" While he was yelling the four officers dragged him out of the bar, and the barristers present said, "Gently, gently, gently." The poor old gentleman's wig fell off, and it was trampled under foot. Mr. Cooper then addressed the court and said that there was no one in court who would not but

view with pity the scene of to-day. Mr. Brierly had only a sister who had allowed him a small weekly sum to support himself, and that was all that he had to live upon. Although she allowed him all that she could, he did nothing but attack her for her penury. The time had now come when something ought to be done. It would be well if now something were done, and the poor gentleman were got into one of those charities which are in the metropolis. About his state there could be no doubt, after what had occurred that morning. The judge said that it was intended to take a step of that kind. Two medical gentlemen would see the gentleman now that he was in custody. Mr. Cooper then said that he was afraid that if that were not done some mischief would arise, for he had seen Mr. Brierly pursuing boys in the street with a big stick, and he was most violent. The affair of the policeman taking the stones on Monday morning was brought about in consequence of Mr. Brierly bringing two very large stones to the court and it was thought dangerous to leave them with him. The subject then dropped. Mr. Brierly is at present in the House of Detention.

THE AUSTRIAN CONVENT SCANDAL.

YET another convent scandal. We learn from Vienna that, in consequence of anonymous information, a judicial commission, assisted by the clergy, forced an entrance into the Carmelite Convent in Cracow, where they found a nun who had been locked up in a dark, filthy room for twenty-one years. She had been utterly neglected, was quite naked, and half mad. Bishop Giełcki, who was present as Papal delegate, overwhelmed the abbess and the nuns with the most vehement reproaches, asking them whether they were women or furies, and thanked the judge charged with the inquiry for his timely and energetic interference. The confessor of the convent was at once suspended by the bishop. As may be imagined, this intelligence created the greatest excitement. The people eagerly inquired for further particulars, and these were supplied by a report in the *L'Esse*, from which the following is extracted:—

On Tuesday, the 20th instant, an anonymous notice, apparently written by a female hand, reached the Criminal Court at Cracow, to the effect that in the Convent of the Carmelite barefooted nuns, one of the order, named Barbara Ubryk, has been forcibly kept in close confinement in a dark cell for a long number of years. The convent, which is one of the strictest female orders, is situated in one of the most beautiful suburbs of Cracow, the so-called Wesola, in the vicinity of the Botanical Garden and the Observatory, and by the side of a splendid avenue, which is one of the favourite walks of the inhabitants of Cracow on a summer's evening. Thousands of people passed these sombre cloister walls without even suspecting the fearful tragedy that was being enacted within for twenty-one years. The convent was first entered by Father Spital, followed by the members of the judicial committee, to whom the portress attempted to refuse admittance. The judge then informed the portress that he had come to see and speak to Nun Barbara Ubryk, which information made a terrible impression upon the portress. She staggered a few paces backwards, assuring that it was impossible to satisfy his demand, and at the same time endeavoured to get away with another nun. The judge, however, prevented this, and ordered the two sisters to be detained, forbidding them in the name of the law to move from the spot. The commission thereupon went to the upper corridor, followed by the nuns, one of whom showed the judge the cell of Sister Barbara. This cell, which was situated at the extreme end of the corridor, between the pantry, close to the dung-hole, had a walled-up window and a double wooden door, in which there was a moveable grating, through which very probably food was handed in. Through a very small open window niche some rays of light could now and then penetrate into this dismal dungeon. The cell, seven paces long by six paces wide, was open, but it is almost impossible to describe the view this piece of inquisition of the nineteenth century presented. In a dark infected hole adjoining the sewer, sat, or rather cowered, on a heap of straw, an entirely naked, totally neglected, half-insane woman, who, at the unaccustomed view of light, the outer world, and human beings, folded her hands, and pitifully implored, "I am hungry, have pity on me; give me meat, and I shall be obedient . . ." The investigation has commenced, but its progress is much impeded by difficulties on account of the strict rules of the Order of the Carmelites. Entrance into the convent can only be obtained with great difficulty, and the nuns are so thickly veiled that the judge never knows to whom he is speaking. The lady superior declared that Barbara Ubryk was kept in close confinement since 1748 by order of the physician, because of her unsound mind. But this physician died in 1848, and the present physician, Dr. Babrzynski, who has been practising in the convent for the last seven years, has never seen Barbara Ubryk. Such treatment, in the opinion of the doctors, is sufficient to drive a person mad. On account of the importance of the case, the Attorney-General has taken the matter in hand. The exasperation of the people knows no bounds. It is stated that the bishop intends to dissolve the convent.

MONT BLANC—Two other ascents of Mont Blanc were made last week. The first, by Mr. Adam Reilly, an Englishman, who has now accomplished that feat six times, and always with a scientific object. The other was made on the same day by Mr. Arnot, of New York. He attained the summit by a somewhat different route at the same time as Mr. Reilly, and the whole party made the descent together.

DEATH OF PROFESSOR JUKES—The death is announced of Professor J. Beete Jukes, M.A., F.R.S., director of her Majesty's Survey of Ireland, the professor of geology to the Royal College of Science. He was born near Birmingham, on the 10th of October, 1811, and educated at King Edward's School in that town, whence he proceeded to St. John's College, Cambridge, where he took his B.A. degree in 1836. Early in 1839 he was appointed geological surveyor of the colony of Newfoundland, and shortly after his return to England, in 1841 was appointed by the Admiralty to the post of naturalist to her Majesty's ship *Fly*, which was then about to proceed on a surveying and exploring voyage to the shores of Australia and New Guinea under the command of Captain F. P. Blackwood, R.N. The *Fly* returned to England in June, 1846, and in September of that year Mr. Jukes was appointed to a post on the Geological Survey of the United Kingdom, under the late Sir H. T. de la Beche. In 1850 he proceeded to Ireland as local director of that branch of the survey, and in the establishment of scientific lectureships in the Museum of Irish Industry under Sir Robert Kane, in 1854, he was also appointed lecturer on geology to that institution. He was the author of a large number of geological works, and of reports of scientific

WISDOM, WIT, & HUMOUR.

WHEN is silence likely to get wet?—When it rains.

WHEN has coffee a right to be cloudy?—When it has sufficient grounds for it.

WHAT is that which we often see made, but never see after it is done?—A bow.

WHY ought musicians and vocalists to get better on in the world than other people?—Because they have to do with flats.

WHEN is a boat like a heap of snow?—When it's a drift.

WHY is a promising cricketer like flour and eggs?—Because he's calculated to make a good batter.

IF an elephant can travel eight miles an hour, and carry his trunk, how fast could he go if he had a little page to carry it for him?

A MAN who courts a young woman in the twilight probably expects to get a wife in a twinkling.

I AM going to draw this beau into a knot, a young lady said when standing at the hymeneal altar.

"WHY, Bridget, how came you to burn the bread so?" "Oh! an' it's burned it is? Sure, then, ma'am, but it's no fault of mine, for wasn't you after tellin' me the las' thing afore you went out, a large loaf must bake one hour, an' I made three large loaves, so I baked 'em three hours jist; for what else should I do?"

NOVEL CHARGE.—A gentleman in Albany was arrested lately for following a lady in the street. He claimed that a man had a right to admire a handsome woman, let him meet her where he might. The court and the lady herself agreed to this, and the gentleman was discharged.

"I wish you to be present, my dear, when the dentist comes," said Laura to her lord; "I desire that no one but you shall perceive my defects." "I cannot gratify you, my love, as I never can see any defect in one so perfect." That evening the dinner was remarkably well cooked.

IT wasn't such a bad notion on the part of a glover who hung up in his glove-shop the following placard:—"Ten thousand hands wanted immediately!" And underneath it was written in very small characters, "To buy my gloves—the best quality."

"WHICH, my dear lady, do you think the merriest place in the world?" "That immediately above the atmosphere that surrounds the earth, I should think." "And why so?" "Because I am told that there all bodies lose their gravity."

THE more you contract debts the more they expand.

WHEN is a prison door like an escaped thief?—When it's bolted.

WHICH is the oldest tree known to man?—The elder tree of course.

SYDNEY SMITH recommended, as the best system of wooden pavement for London, that the aldermen should "lay their heads together."

WHEN does the captain of a steamboat declare himself to be a necessary adjunct to a smoker?—When he says ease-her-back-her-stop-her.

WHAT celestial thing, and what terrestrial thing, does a rainy day exercise the same influence over?—The sun and your boots; it takes the shine out of both.

AT a Highland hotel the following unique bill was presented to a gentleman who had made a few hours' sojourn at the establishment: "For eating yourself and horse four and thirpence."

A MAN in Connecticut having advertised his wife for "leaving his bed and board," the fugacious spouse retorted as follows:—"I went away from the lazy lout to earn my 'board,' and the 'bed' belongs to my own mother."

"How long did Adam remain in Paradise before he sinned?" asked an admirable *cara sposa* of her loving husband. "Till he got a wife," answered the husband calmly.

"HAVE I not offered you every advantage?" said a doating father to his son. "Oh, yes!" replied the youth; "but I could not think of taking advantage of my father."

A YOUNG American, who recently fell in love with a very beautiful young lady, says that when he ascertained last evening that she reciprocated his passion, he felt as though he was sitting on the roof of a meeting-house, and every shingle was a few's-harp.

"MY dear," said an anxious matron to her daughter, "it is very wrong for young people to be throwing kisses at each other." "Why so, mamma? I'm sure they don't hurt, even if they do hit."

A YOUNG man and woman stopped at a certain hotel to pass a day or two. Their awkward appearance attracted the curiosity of one of the family, who commenced a conversation with the female by inquiring how far she had travelled that day. "Travelled!" repeated the stranger somewhat indignantly, "we didn't travel, we rid."

A YANKEE paper says that an inventive genius in Minnesota has "got up a stove which saves three-fourths of the wood, while the ashes it makes pay for the remainder."

CHARLES LAMB used to say that he had a great dislike to monkeys, on the principle that it was not pleasant to look upon one's poor relations.

A CURE for polygamy in Utah. The introduction of Paris fashions. Not a saint in Mormonism would long stick to his harem if he had to pay the dressmakers' bills for a dozen or twenty wives.

"ARE these pure canaries," asked a gentleman of a bird-dealer, with whom he was negotiating for a gift for his fair. "Yes, sir," said the bird-dealer confidently. "I raised them 'ere birds from the very best canary seed."

A WIT once wrote to a friend, "Unfortunately the house is full of cousins; would they were once removed!"

"TWO rainiest in this bosom," as the lover said when a basin of water was thrown over him by the lady he was serenading.

A YOUNG professor at one of the colleges married thirty years his senior. This was said by a witty friend to be a proof of his ambition, as he aspired to be a student of "the old lady."

WHY are eyes like persons separated by distant climes?—Because they correspond, but never meet.

WHY are young widows like a band of Ethiopian minstrels?—Because they do not stay long in black.

"WHY, Bridget," said a lady, who wished to rally her servant girl, for the amusement of the company, upon the fantastic ornamenting of a huge pie, "did you do this? You're quite an artist. Pray how did you do it?" "Indeed, mum, it was myself that did it," replied Bridget; "an' it's pretty? I did it with your false teeth, mum!"

"PAPA," said a bright-eyed girl one day, "I believe mamma loves you better'n she does me." Papa held doubts on that subject, but concluded that it was best to deny the soft impeachment. She meditated softly about it for some time, evidently construing her father's silence as favourable to her side. "Well," she said at last, "I s'pose it's all right; you're the biggest, and it takes more to love you."

IN Congreve's comedy of "The Way of the World" one of the characters is thus made to speak of a lady in allusion to her glibness and inveteracy of talk; "She has got that everlasting rotation of tongue that echo has no chance with her, but must wait till she dies to catch her last words."

AN American contemporary says the famous saying of Shakespeare, that "there is a divinity which shapes our ends," is exemplified in the employment of thousands of young girls who are making gentlemen's boots.

AN uninformed Irishman hearing the Sphinx alluded to in company, whispered to his companion:—"Who is Sphinx?" "A monster man," "Oh!" said our Irishman, in order not to seem unacquainted with his family, "a Monster man! I thought he was from Connaught."

A CLERGYMAN, at a funeral in Marylebone, went on with the service until he came to the words—"Our deceased (brother or sister)." Not remembering the sex of the deceased person, the clergyman turned to one of the mourners, and asked him in the language of the Prayer-Book, "Brother or sister?" The man addressed very innocently replied, "No relation at all, Sir; only an acquaintance."

A CONTEMPORARY says it had hardly published its first number when the editor received a lengthy communication from "A Constant Reader."

A PROTESTANT COW.

PADDY MURPHY and his wife Bridget, after many years of hard labour in ditching and washing, had accumulated a sufficiency to warrant them in purchasing a cow (of course they had pigs), which they did at the first opportunity. As it was bought of a Protestant neighbour, Paddy stopped on his way home at the house of the priest, and procured a bottle of holywater with which to exorcise the false faith out of her. "Isn't she a fine creature?" asked Pat of the admiring Bridget. "Jist hold her till I fix the shed!"

To save the precious fluid from harm he took it into the house and set it up in a cupboard until he had "fixed" things. Then he returned and brought the bottle back again, and, when Bridget was holding the rope, proceeded to pour it upon her back.

But poor Paddy had made a slight mistake. Standing within the same closet was a bottle of aqua-fortis that had been procured for a far different purpose; and as it dropped upon the back of the poor cow, and the hair began to smoke and the flesh to burn, she exhibited decided appearances of restlessness.

"Pour on more, Paddy," shouted Bridget, as she tugged at the rope.

"I'll give her enough now," quoth Paddy, and he emptied the bottle.

Up went the heels of the cow, down went her head, over went Bridget and a half-dozen of the "children," and away dashed the infuriated bovine down the street, to the terror of all the mothers and the delight of the dogs.

Poor Paddy stood for a moment breathless with astonishment, then, clapping his hands upon his hips, looked sorrowfully, and exclaimed:

"Be jabbers, Bridget, but isn't the Protestant strong in her—the baste!"

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